

IRELAND. [Appendix. - History (B)]

# HISTORY

OF THE

## IRISH REBELLION,

IN THE YEAR, 1798.

CONTAINING

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| I. An Enquiry into its Causes; with a View of the political State of IRELAND since the Reign of Henry the Second. | III. A Narrative of the REBELLION from May, to the Defeat of the FRENCH and REBEL ARMY in the August following. |
| II. The secret Progress of the REBELLION, previous to the Insurrection in May 1798.                               | IV. Remarkable Atrocities committed by the REBELS; and their extraordinary Persecution of several Individuals.  |

### THE WHOLE

IMPARTIALLY COLLECTED FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES:

WITH NOTES,

HISTORICAL AND EXPLANATORY;

Including

AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THE WORK:

And other interesting Particulars.

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" *My Ear is pain'd,*  
" *My Soul is sick with every Day's Report*  
" *Of Wrong and Outrage with which Earth is fill'd.*

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COWPER.

—DUBLIN:—

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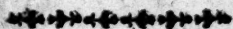
1798.





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## P R E F A C E.



**T**HE following Work, was intended to exhibit a concise View of the most important Events during the late Rebellion, in such a Manner as to form a perfect and regular Narrative. The detached Accounts that have been hitherto published, give no complete or satisfactory Detail of that national Misfortune; such a Compilation therefore as the present, cannot be either useless or unentertaining.

We

We have here endeavoured to collect and arrange the whole in chronological Order; and have added an alphabetical Index of the different Battles, &c. for the Convenience of the Reader.

In this Undertaking, many Difficulties were to be encountered:—private Information being often uncertain and exaggerated, and little Help having been obtained from public Documents.

It became necessary, therefore, to make the most careful Enquiry into the Authenticity of Facts; and this has been done, whenever a Doubt could be suggested: Nothing, therefore, has been stated, without the corroboration of authentic Testimony.

Compa-



Comparing with each other, the different Circumstances that most probably gave Rise to these recent Disturbances, we have been induced to look back to a remote Period of Irish History: Whatever Remarks have been made on this Part of the Subject, it is hoped are sufficiently supported by the Authorities referred to, or collected in the Notes: and it is presumed, the Reader will not be displeased at finding in them some Sketch of the antient as well as the modern State of this Country.

Impartiality, in every Attempt of this Nature, should be at all Times a governing Principle. It is impossible, on such Occasions, to please all Parties; but not having in View the Praise or Censure of any, we  
have

have endeavoured only to aim at the *Certainty of Truth*. One Thing, indeed, has been avoided, so far as the Nature of the Subject would admit; that is, the Mention of private Characters, who have been implicated in Facts, for which they have amply atoned; and who, therefore, from Motives of Delicacy, we have declined to record.

Much more might undoubtedly have been said upon the Occasion, were we inclined to extend this Work to any extraordinary Length; but a plain and useful Statement of Events is all that we intended, and such as would not put the Reader to any considerable Expence.

It has been almost impossible to state, with Accuracy, the Numbers that have been killed on either  
Side,

Side, in the several Engagements that took Place during this unfortunate Contest. However, where we have ventured to mention any Thing particular on that Head, the best Authorities have been referred to, which the Nature of the Case would afford: Reports, on such Points, will be, at all Times, various and uncertain. Many unimportant or trifling Skirmishes have likewise, perhaps, been suffered to pass unnoticed; but this, it is hoped, will be deemed excusable, since a minute Detail of them would not be either useful or interesting: Nothing, however, that seemed to merit Attention, has been rejected; and we have availed ourselves of every Help that could be derived from whatever had been hitherto published on the Subject.

To



To the unprejudiced, therefore, the whole is submitted, as an Attempt to put into the Hands of every Man, some regular Memorial of an Event so important to the Kingdom in general, and so interesting in its History.

Should it be inquired why the Writer's Name has not appeared in the Title Page, the Answer is, it was deemed unnecessary, where there was Nothing in view to gratify the Ambition of the Individual, or the Prejudices of a Party:—We have neither written for *Fame* or *Interest*.

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#### CORRECTIONS.

Amongst any other Errors that may have escaped the Press, the Reader is requested to correct the following:—

Page 11, Line 15 —For *cotinued*, read *continued*.

Page 28, Line 12,—For *discovers*, read *discover*.

Page 31, Line 29,—For *pure* read *purser*.

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H I S T O R Y  
OF THE  
R E B E L L I O N,

1798.

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P A R T I.

*An Enquiry into the Causes of the Rebellion,  
with a view of the political State of Ireland,  
since the Reign of Hen. 2d.*

**B**EFORE we enter upon a narrative of the late disturbances in this kingdom, it may be proper to enquire into the CAUSES that produced them.—In this attempt it seems necessary to look back to a distant period ;—because, whatever their immediate causes may have been, they appear connected with some radical principles which had a very early existence.

It has been the deplorable fate of this country, both before and since its connection with England, to experience the calamity of internal discontent.—

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Divided

Divided at former periods into different principalities, the continual disputes that arose between the petty chiefs who governed it, occasioned such scenes of calamity and bloodshed, that it's wretched natives gladly sought an asylum, under the first power that offered them protection. It was these differences that first produced a junction between this country and it's sister kingdom; and happy it must have been for Ireland, that such a connection was formed; since to that, we may attribute whatever degree of improvement and civilization, she possesses at present.——When this event, however, took place, it was attended with some peculiar circumstances.—Ireland, instead of being subdued by conquest, voluntarily attached itself to England;—entering into an original, constitutional compact, and agreeing to receive the like laws and form of government to which the latter was then subject.—Accordingly the English monarch, (*Hen. 2.*) and several of his successors, granted particular charters to Ireland, (*A*); established in it an independent parliament, and introduced many necessary and salutary regulations, whereby tranquility was restored, and its natives enjoyed those blessings which arise from a well-regulated state, and the due administration of justice.

These were the benefits Ireland experienced, by her first acquaintance with a country, more enlightened—more wealthy,—and in every sense, more improved: for she was then, indeed, a stranger to commerce, possessed no naval force, was confessedly in a state of ignorance, bordering on barbarism; and a ready prey to any foreign invader.



It is true, there had been a time, in which this nation, it is asserted, was the nursery of science,—arts, and literature; when they were, in a manner, banished from every other part of *Europe*; but she could not long boast of this celebrated character, for she very soon returned to her original situation: and tho' she submitted, for the most part, to her English visitors, that submission was neither so general, or so sincere, as some writers endeavour to persuade us.—Hence, in a great measure, arose those partial disturbances (commonly called REBELLIONS) which, from time to time occurred, in this country, previous to the general insurrection in 1641 (B.) And indeed the influence of the English settlers in it, continued during many reigns confined to that district, known under the denomination of '*the English Pale*,'\*—for the reduction of Ireland did not properly commence before the time of Queen Elizabeth, and was not complete until the reigns of her successors.

The forfeiture of landed property, which occasionally followed those repeated acts of opposition made by the Irish, established an almost irremovable cause of discontent; which, notwithstanding the family alliances, formed between the people of each country, has never failed to discover itself on every possible opportunity.—This was rather a matter of private concernment. The complaint, however, could not be removed, without a total subversion of national property.—Such an attempt was neither practicable, nor consistent with principles of sound policy and justice.

\* This district had the present County of *Louth* nearly in its centre; and originally extended from the town of *Wicklow* in the South, to the point of *Dunluce* in the North of Ireland.

If Ireland derived material advantages from the communication of an English form of government, the latter was not less benefited by the acquisition of a country which, from its situation and fertility, formed an important addition to her dominions.—These circumstances however (as will appear hereafter) served unfortunately to contribute to national jealousies, rivalry, and discontent.

The first breach of any importance, that seems to have been made in the *original compact*, between the two countries which acknowledged, and should have for ever established, the political independence of Ireland, was the well-known statute, called *Poyning's Act*. A law that cramped the legislative power of this country, and made it subservient to an English privy-council.—This act was passed in the reign of Henry the 7th (C), and the grievance, tho' long complained of, continued unredressed.—In latter times, the removal of the *Appellant Jurisdiction* to England, was considered an additional violation of our national privileges.

The writings of the celebrated *Swift* on this subject, and (perhaps in a much greater degree) the famous "*Case of Ireland*," written by Mr. *Molyneux*, contributed amongst other publications, to impress on the minds of *Irishmen*, their claim to national independence; and by asserting that *Ireland* had never been a conquer'd country, but was intitled to all the powers and privileges of a free and distinct state, subject only to the *regal* power of *England*, left the public mind possessed of those opi-  
nions,

nions, which have lately been extended to an unforeseen, and, perhaps, unwarrantable length; and which extension has proved, in no small degree, instrumental to the late disturbances.—Other subsequent proceedings, amongst which we may class the *English Stat.* of 6 George, I. made farther innovations on our original system. (D)

When the memorable statute of *Poyning* was passed, there had not yet existed any *religious* differences between the two countries. Whatever disagreement had before arisen, was merely political; for the religion of each kingdom was perfectly the same.—The succeeding reign, however, produced the *Reformation*; which, as it took its rise in England, naturally extended itself in that country to a much greater degree, than in this kingdom, (E). It may likewise be observed, that *Ireland* was less adapted for its reception. For, as *ignorance* is the mother of *bigotry*, Ireland having had the greater share of it, was most likely to retain her antient superstition. Hence, a great majority of it's natives continued Romanists, whilst those of England became their religious opponents; and that settled dislike and enmity now commenced between these different persuasions, that exhibited its baneful influence even during the late Rebellion.

Having thus discovered two *general principles* of discontent,—the one *political*, and the other *religious*,—we shall now descend more to particulars. England has ever been a *commercial* country;—upon this principle, her power,—her opulence,—her very existence



existence depended. The possession of Ireland (naturally better situated for foreign trade) contributed to her commerce and her wealth. But as England increased in opulence, she increased in cunning. She gladly and ingeniously seized every opportunity of laying such restrictions on this kingdom, as might preserve the balance of that commerce in her own favour.—Hence those *trade laws*, which were long so loudly complained of, and which afforded another source of jealousy and discontent.

As the present reign proved favourable to the political independence of Ireland, so it also opened some more indulgent channels to her commerce, (F.) —These, however, were not thought to answer eventually, either what was proposed or expected. —We do not mean to discuss this subject; we glance at it only as an additional ground of difference and dispute; which, added to the particulars already mentioned, and others that we shall notice hereafter, formed that mass of complaint, which was at last collected against the effects of English influence and controul.—Unhappily we have occasion now to return to the wretched effects of *religious* differences.

No sooner had the REFORMATION been started in England, and the dross been separated from the ore, than a kind of double purification commenced; and the Church and Conventicle,—Lutheran and Calvinist, waged pulpit oratory against each other.—Religion is an extensive field for ingenuity to work in. The increasing influence of Presbyterianism at last, called forth that act passed in the reign of Q<sub>ueen</sub> Anne,

Anne, known by the name of the *sacramental test act*; against which, the *Protestant dissenters* have ever since inveighed, as not only prejudicial to their temporal interests, but wholly repugnant to their conscience. If these, however, had reason to complain of that restrictive statute, the Romanist thought he was still more aggrieved, by that code of *penal Laws* which had, from time to time, accumulated against him, almost from the commencement of the Reformation to the present reign: Laws which undoubtedly originated from the necessity of the times, and repeated acts of disobedience; but which, he contended, were no longer necessary, inasmuch as *repentance* and *amendment* had made him a *new creature*.

When we state these different causes of discontent,—the one affecting the *Presbyterians*, and the other the *Romanists*; and when it is considered that the *latter* form, at least two thirds, and the *former*, a very considerable portion of the inhabitants of this kingdom, it is not difficult to conclude how far, taken collectively, the principles of disaffection may have been scattered through the whole. But another cause of complaint existed, which was common to each party, and in which they were joined by no small number of the *established church*; we speak now of the *Tithe* institution. It was long and generally insisted, that tithes were an intolerable burthen, operating to the prejudice of the kingdom in general, the farmer in particular; tending to suppress industry, and contributing only to the support of pampered and indolent ecclesiastics.—Whatever grounds there

there may have been for this dispute, it is certain the *Romanists* must either have forgotten, or not been inclined to recollect, that tythes were established before the Reformation, and on foot in these kingdoms during the very reign of Popery:—Nor can it be presumed, had that religion continued to prevail, that her votaries would have been exempt from the exaction of them. But, without attempting to extend this work, by an examination of particular questions, it is enough for the present purpose, that we have drawn this outline of the public mind, so far as related to party dispositions.—Such, then, we see, were some of the latent sparks which required only to be united, in order to kindle the flame, and create a general confusion. What we shall now remark, effected that melancholy consequence.

As the most perfect works of human understanding are subject to alteration and decay, and carry within them, like the natural frame of man, the principles of their own dissolution; it may naturally be presumed, and indeed has been universally experienced, that forms of government, however wisely instituted, must submit to the gnawing tooth of time, and suffer those changes that are produced by the continual mutation of manners, opinions and events. The British constitution, wherein we boast of participating, could not always stand an exception to this general rule. Excellent as it is in theory, it had long varied in practice, from it's antient and genuine principles. This alteration was apparent to all who were acquainted with its proper nature and form; and the changes which had, from time to time,



time been introduced, became not only known to the party governing, but to the persons governed: It was acknowledged by all, and once assented to by the present prime minister of England, that some mode of *Reform* was wanting in the common's-house in parliament; and that the people were not (as they ought to be) fairly and adequately represented.—The assertion was equally applicable to both kingdoms; and the grounds upon which it was founded are too generally known to require explanation. As this was a grievance affecting the kingdom in general, so it was the only grievance of which *all* complained; and a *Parliamentary Reform* being considered, as the grand panacea, to remove all political disorders, and apply a remedy to every partial evil, it was universally looked up to, and anxiously desired:—It was a concentrating principle wherein all parties agreed; though almost every one pointed out a different mode, and acted from a different motive.

In 1782, the parliament of Ireland asserted its *independency*, (G) and soon afterwards, the public pulse beat high for parliamentary reform. Public meetings began to be held; and the question was particularly discussed at the famous meeting at *Dungannon*. (H). The IRISH VOLUNTEERS at length arrived at the zenith of their glory.—They had contributed much to the service of their country: Their spirited exertions prevented the meditated invasion of a foreign enemy; and they were favour'd with the thanks of both houses of parliament. (I). The clamour respecting a *free trade* was, in some degree, appeased by concessions on the part of Great Britain (K); and

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the *Romanist* was indulged with a free toleration in the exercise of his religion, and enjoyed a relaxation of those *Penal Laws* of which he had so long complained. Whether the regulations which have taken place respecting commerce are, or are not, fully adequate to the purposes intended, or to the general desire of the nation, certain it is, this kingdom derived therefrom material advantages, and began to exhibit evident signs of encreasing prosperity.—Delegates from the different counties at last assembled in Dublin, on the business of *Reform*, (L); but the legislature adopted no measure towards that purpose:—The systems suggested were not approved of; nor was the time thought convenient for such an undertaking. Still, however, this favorite object remained strongly impressed on the public mind.

That such a measure was requisite, we already mentioned to have been confessed on all sides:—It was indeed—‘*a consummation devoutly to be wished*,’—but when we mention the term *Reform*, we mean an *actual* and substantial *Reform*, in the true and proper sense of the expression; not merely an *alteration*, calculated only to serve temporary purposes, or the ends of any prevailing party:—and such a *perfect* reform, whenever attainable, must be the work of the wisest heads, and the purest hearts;—of men equally distinguished for their abilities,—public virtue,—and integrity.

Matters of this public nature must be known in other countries, as well as in those to which they particularly relate; and therefore our neighbours on the

the continent were not strangers to our situation.— Here, therefore, we shall for a moment extend the prospect, and turn our eyes to the affairs of Europe.

The governments on the continent have long been, for the most part, arbitrary: Under the *Papal* power especially, *civil liberty* was almost unknown; witness the *inquisitorial power*, and the lately demolished *Rasfale*. We live in what may justly be called, the æra of political philosophy. The works of *Voltaire*, *Raynal*, *Rosseau*, and others, awakened mankind to a sense of their situation, and made them anxious for the enjoyment of national freedom.— Another circumstance occurred:—The unfortunate contest between Great Britain and America, which so much engaged the attention of Europe, and terminated in the establishment of an independent republic, furnished employment for the ablest pens; and the measures adopted by France, in support of American freedom, having given her subjects a fuller insight into political rights than they seemed to have acquired before, opened a door to those new opinions, and that general change of disposition, which first produced a demand of national rights, and at last effected the abolition of the French monarchy.

When France had thus shook off her *regal*, for a *republican* form of government, her characteristic volatility became conspicuous: She might be aptly enough compared to a bird escaped from the imprisonment of its cage, flying about with thoughtless wildness, and uncertain where to rest. She now enjoyed



enjoyed liberty, but it was the liberty of national confusion; and she was generous enough to invite all the neighbouring powers to rally round her standard.

The word LIBERTY has a fascinating effect; and as many countries were for centuries deprived of it's real enjoyment, we cannot be surprised that France (as remarkable, perhaps, for cunning as for volatility) should introduce her unsettled principles amongst other states. She did so, and the consequences are sufficiently known.—Great Britain has hitherto escaped the contagion; a circumstance that may justly be attributed to the radical principles of her excellent constitution.

The strong desire which was felt in both these kingdoms for a Parliamentary Reform, afforded a favourable opportunity, for the enemies of each country to promote enmity and discord.—So desirous were all parties for this favorite measure, that, in order to obtain it, the *Churchman*,—the *Romanist*, and the *Presbyterian*, joined in the common cause, all hoping to participate in it's expected advantages. The Romanists professed now the most perfect cordiality towards all their fellow-subjects;—they reprobated the abominable doctrine, “*that faith should not be kept with HERETICS* ;”—their sentiments breathed nothing but general philanthropy; and they were ready to unite in bonds of friendship with the members of every religious persuasion:—Thus, to accomplish one *political* measure,—MARTIN, PETER and JOHN were, in future, to—“*dwell together as brethren*.”

In consequence of this extraordinary coalition, the Churchman and Dissenter determined to forget, on their parts, all religious disputes, and to embrace their newly converted friends, whose sufferings, in a political purgatory for above a century, it was alledged, had purified them sufficiently for a full enjoyment of all the blessings likely to arise from a reformed constitution:—They were, therefore, to be admitted to the privilege of parliamentary representation; and to be qualified not only to elect, but to be *elected*; and an equality of rights and privileges was to take place amongst all ranks and professions; for effecting which, the kingdom was to form itself into a political society under the denomination of UNITED IRISHMEN.—Such was the state of the public mind, and such the progress of affairs, when France scattered her emissaries through this unhappy country, to seize the favourable opportunity of overturning its government, and throwing us into general confusion,

The public prints, now teemed with the most inflammatory and treasonable publications:—They feared not to represent the necessity of a total separation of Ireland from the British Empire;—that freedom and prosperity could never be enjoyed, whilst we were joined to a powerful rival, who treated us with indignity; and, from a state of national independence, had reduced us to that of a servile colony:—That she still held an unreasonable control over our commerce;—had deprived us of all the essentials of a free people;—had extended her influence

ence through every department of the state;—had caused us to be burthen'd with oppressive taxes;—useless employments;—and, in the end, had left us only the name of a parliament, and the shadow of a constitution.

How far the artful insinuations of our secret and avowed enemies might have operated on the minds of some who really wished well to their country, we shall not pretend to determine:—It is reasonable to believe, that several respectable characters were induced to engage in the late dissensions, by motives very different from those which actuated the deluded multitude. Men of public spirit and enlightened understandings possibly looked at first no farther than the renovation of the constitution; and, perhaps, thought only of obtaining it by what they considered as constitutional means:—But when intestine commotions take place, the consequences cannot be easily or precisely determined.—Accordingly we find, that the institution of UNITED IRISHMEN, which at first assumed the appearance of only a *civil association* for promoting parliamentary reform, was soon converted into a *military* one, for the purpose of overthrowing the whole parliamentary system—and when disturbances had thus commenced, and matters approached nearer towards a crisis, the masque of unanimity and friendship, under which the professors of different religions had before embraced each other, quickly dropt;—antient animosities revived;—the spirit of bigotry once more prevailed; and *Popery* displayed all its former horrors of cruelty, persecution,



tion, and carnage.—Upon this point, we refer the reader to those well authenticated facts, stated in the subsequent part of this work.

These circumstances evidently demonstrate, that the religious coalition before mentioned, was far from being sincere; at the same time that they prove, there *may* exist amongst mankind, a profession having tenets destructive of every social principle, and repugnant to all the natural feelings of humanity.—The reader may satisfy himself more fully respecting the tenets we allude to, by perusing VERIDICUS's statement of them, in "*a concise account of the material events and atrocities which occurred in the late rebellion, &c.*" (M)

It has been indeed asserted, that the cruel barbarities committed, during this rebellion, should be attributed only to the *lower orders* of the people:—Indisputable facts, however, contradict the assertion: *they* were the ignorant and wretched tools of men better instructed, who made them the instruments of a diabolical hypocrisy;—men, who would persuade them they honored their God in sacrificing his creatures, and could work out their salvation by the destruction of mankind.—They were seduc'd to believe, that in overturning the government, they might establish their favourite religion; and be at last restored to patrimonial properties, of which, it was pretended, their forefathers had been unjustly deprived.—Thus did *Priestcraft* seize the first favourable moment for exercising it's accustomed and wicked machinations.

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We have thus far, as briefly as the subject would admit, endeavour'd to point out the remote and proximate causes of our recent misfortunes; causes which we find, were partly internal and partly external, and of which some have gradually produced their destructive effects in this country for a length of time. We find jealousies taking place between the two countries; and political complaints arising on account of early infringements made on our national independence, restraints put on our commerce, and an increasing extent of foreign influence.—We find, however, during the present reign, material oppressions removed;—many salutary regulations made;—many indulgencies granted to complaining parties;—and a happy prospect opening of national prosperity. But, from an unfortunate combination of circumstances, affecting all Europe, as well as ourselves, we find the common enemies of our country, and of mankind, enabled to destroy that felicity we were likely to possess; and (by laying hold of the only circumstance that could induce dissatisfaction, and which the blessings of peace might have, in time, removed) to revive every lurking principle of discontent; create internal division; convulse the kingdom; and involve us in one miserable scene of anarchy, murder and devastation.

Whatever, therefore, may have been the real motives of those, who opposed a parliamentary reform upon the argument that times were not yet convenient for it, events have certainly justified the principle. Had it been attempted whilst these mischiefs were

were secretly impending, and parties endeavouring to deceive and destroy each other, our constitution, instead of being *improved*, must have been totally *annihilated*:—And it may now become questionable, after what has occurred, whether a measure of such importance, and so hazardous in it's tendency, can be at any time undertaken with safety:—Better perhaps, it may be, to endure the ills we have, "*than fly to others that we know not of*:"—And though *that* constitution may, by the events of time, have contracted specks and blemishes to diminish it's beauty, still it continues *maugre* all its imperfections, superior to any other government at present existing:—If it has been wounded, it may yet be healed:—Possibly its natural strength and temperament may, in time, effect it's cure, without recurring to experiments that political quackery might prescribe, without any certain assurance of their consequences.——It is at all times easier to destroy than to rebuild.

Let us now consider what must have ensued, had the fomenters of the late rebellion succeeded in their designs.

The state of parliamentary representation, which afforded a pretext to the disaffected parties, having ceased to be the object of their attention, it became their sole view to dismember the empire—to destroy every connection between Ireland and Great Britain, and perfectly to new-model the Government.—How was this to be accomplished? By the assistance of FRANCE!—A nation that had been for centuries our avowed and implacable enemy;—whose sincerity

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could



could never be relied on ;—and the dreadful effects of whose pernicious principles, in other countries, we had recent and melancholy proofs of.—Could it be presumed, had she enabled this kingdom to detach itself from the British Empire, that she would have sought no requital for the undertaking, but have left us the full enjoyment of independence, and the free choice of any form of government we might think proper to adopt ? The idea is absurd !—We should, in such case, only have changed masters ; and instead of serving our friends, would have been the *slaves* of our enemies.—How could this consequence have been prevented ?—If Ireland has never been able of herself to shake off the power of England since her first submission to it, could she disengage herself from the fetters with which France might bind her, whenever that nation should establish it's authority ?—But what is the *happy* form of government we should, in such case, have received in exchange for the system we have at present ?—Even such as France enjoys at this day ;—a wild and frantic anarchy ; the mad contrivance of political enthusiasts.

The deplorable condition to which France was reduced, after the termination of it's monarchy, afforded abundant caution to surrounding nations.—Such, however, must naturally follow the total subversion of any government ; because, in the momentous interim between the abolition of one system, and the establishment of another, every thing is reduced to a state of nature ; and nothing is presented to the view, but a dreadful chaos.—All actual power devolves then to the multitude, whose exercise of  
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it will be more or less dangerous and destructive, in proportion to their degree of civilization. What inconceivable calamities, therefore, would have followed an absolute change of government in *this* country, where the lower orders of the people are ferociously ignorant, and where such a variety of party interests must have met in competition, may be better imagined than expressed.—We should have then beheld one side contending for the *restoration* of our antient and genuine constitution;—another for their favourite *republic*.—One endeavouring to support the established religion;—a second the Roman Catholic;—a third struggling for Presbyterianism;—and, perhaps, a fourth opposing the establishment of any religion whatever.—From such a contest, how great a length of time must have elapsed before *order* could arise out of confusion, and general tranquillity be restored! and during that destructive period, what misery,—what oppression, and what slaughter must have ensued!

We have already had a specimen of these calamities; and, perhaps, since they extended no farther, it may prove fortunate that we experienced them:—Because, they have made us acquainted with the direful consequences that would attend the overthrow of our constitution.—They have convinced men of different persuasions, how little reliance they can place in each other:—They have discovered the deceitful contrivances of priestly imposition:—They have undeceived the deluded populace, by shewing, that a superstitious *clergy* could not lead them to victory; that Providence had not made choice of this  
period

period to exalt their favourite religion,—that the merciful Creator of all things did not favour their horrid acts of massacre and devastation;—and, that they had not arrived at a time when *they* should be restored to those possessions, they vainly imagined had been wrested from them.

The *Protestant* now perceives, that his religion—his property—his freedom,—his existence, were all endanger'd; by this desperate attempt at a change of government.—And those who, perhaps, had no other motive for their conduct, but a misdirected zeal in the service of their country, discovers the dangerous hazard of arming a rude and ungovernable multitude, that will ever cast off restraint when it becomes possessed of power, (N.)

We are aware of many speculative points, that here offer themselves for consideration; but it is not the business of this work, to expatiate on the nature of *Patriotism*,—the affection of man to his country—or the reciprocal duties between the *governors* and the *governed*.—We are ready to admit, that upon all occasions, the *public good* should supercede *private interest*;—but the following principles, we apprehend, may be laid down as self-evident.——*First*, that a change of government should never be attempted, without JUST CAUSE, and evident NECESSITY.——*Secondly*, that it should not be attempted, when it is not certainly practicable.——*Thirdly*, that it should not be attempted, where the change would not produce an *essential* and *actual* benefit to the *community*.——The case now under consideration, cannot, it



it is presumed, be justified on any of these positions. —Not on the ground of *evident necessity*; because, it is more than probable, that many of the evils complained of, would have been in time removed, without recurring to actual force and resistance:—and also, because, whatever defects the constitution at present may have, it is still preferable to any *that was* intended to be substituted.——Secondly, the change was not practicable; as events have unquestionably demonstrated.——Thirdly, it would not have produced any essential, or actual benefit to the community; since, on the contrary, we should have been thereby subjected to a multiplicity of evils, that were obvious to every impartial enquirer.

• That the *native Irish*, (properly so called) have never retained a cordial affection towards the *English settlers* in this country, nor to the *English nation* in general, especially since the *Reformation*,—there is ample proof.——Nor can it be doubted, that our foreign enemies have constantly aim'd at a political separation of the two countries.—*France* particularly has *ever* had this object in view, (O); and disturbances have been repeatedly fomented in this and our sister kingdom, whenever the circumstances of the latter afforded any probability of their success.—Upon all such occasions, *Priestcraft* has exerted it's manœuvres, and *Popery* discovered it's designs, (P); But at no period had the Romanists less *real* cause of complaint, than under the present government, and during the present reign.—They have enjoyed the undisturbed exercise of their religion,—they have been liberated from former restraints,—they have been

been fully protected in their property,—and, in fact, placed on nearly the same footing with *protestant* subjects, the senatorial privileges excepted, (Q.)—yet, at the moment of receiving all these indulgences,—they have been anxious to overturn the power by which they were fostered ;—to aid the designs of the common enemy,—to annihilate the constitution ; and to embrue their hands in the blood of their fellow-subjects!—And was this merely to effect a *reform* in the *Constitution* !—We believe *none* will be found hardy enough, to answer this Ques. in the *affirmative*.

What indulgence could the *Romanist* wish for, which he had not already received ?—Not any,—but, a share in the *legislative* power ; to grant which, would neither be consistent with the safety of the *state*, or of that *religion*, which the SOVEREIGN is in the *most solemn* manner bound to maintain. So evident is this,—that many sensible *Romanists*, have declared such privilege, was more than they did desire or expect : satisfied as they were, in the protection of their property, and toleration of their religion ; and knowing, that in common with the rest of their fellow-subjects, they might leave all other matters to the moderation and wisdom of a *protestant* government.

But this would not gratify the desire of those who panted for legislation ; nor did it answer the purposes of an ambitious priesthood, who, by the downfall of one religion, hoped to reign triumphant in another.—Nothing less, therefore, than a total subversion of all things *civil* and *ecclesiastic*, would suit these designs.—Too weak, however, in themselves for the attempt, they had recourse for assistance to a foreign power,

power, and that power readily promised it's support. Says FRANCE,—“shake off at once your ancient alliance with a people, who, pretending to be your friends, are your cruelest oppressors: We will assist you in the undertaking: You shall enjoy equal rights and equal privileges: We will restore you to independence: We will establish your freedom.”—It was a *French promise*, and a *French boast*; and had events answered their expectation, that promise, and that boast, would have been performed with accustomed *French sincerity*.

The *lower orders* of the people were strangers to the artifice.—To them, the terms, parliamentary *reform*,—parliamentary *representation*,—national *rights*, and equality of *privileges*, were almost unintelligible. But as *their* co-operation was necessary in effecting the general disturbance, and as the most ignorant will not run their necks into the halter without *some inducement* to do so, the interest of their *mother church* was founded in their ears, and the mouth of the *priest* became a trumpet of sedition; which operating on ignorance and bigotry, rous'd them into action.—Thus whilst their leaders looked forward to the acquisition of power and authority, the deluded rabble fought for their *Faith*, their *pope*, and their *priesthood*.

We lament the unhappy fate of those wretched sufferers, who were the dupes of such priestly imposture and religious delusion.—We deplore the misfortunes of many, who, impelled by pure motives, fell victims to ill-founded speculation and inconsiderate rashness; whilst we detest that hypocrisy which evinced itself in others; and, we trust, will for ever deprive them of future confidence.



We could dwell longer on the subject, did the limits of this work permit; but, in some degree, it appears unnecessary, since events are so recent, that the reader's judgment must nearly anticipate whatever could be offered.—It is hoped, however, the outline has been faithfully drawn, though the picture has not been set off with all the force of colouring.—*Plain truth* and just representation, is all that was intended; and for this we appeal to the authorities occasionally referred to.—If, from what has been stated, and the circumstances we are about to relate, the reader shall be convinced of the deceitfulness of *faction*,—the danger of *priestcraft*,—the miseries of national *dissention*,—and the horrors of *civil war*;—If he shall see the necessity of supporting the constitution at present established, in preference to one that would destroy his *freedom*, *religion*, and *property*, and reduce us to the like wretched situation with other countries, who have submitted to the influence of France; our labours will have their reward.—What may be the consequence of that general convulsion, which has so long destroyed the happiness of *Europe*, or what may be the particular design of All-ruling Providence in the present dispensation of his power, we shall not presume to enquire.—This, however, we shall be bold to assert, that nothing but a *reformation in conduct*—a restoration of *unanimity*—a firm attachment to the *true principles* of our *Constitution*—and a *general eradication* of *bigotry* from all religious persuasions, can save this kingdom from impending ruin.

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# Irish Rebellion, 1798.

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## P A R T II.

*Secret Progress of the Rebellion previous to the  
Insurrection, in May, 1798.*

**I**N the foregoing part, the principal causes of dispute, between this kingdom and England, since their original connection, in the time of Henry 2d. have been noticed;—and it appears, that during the reign of his present majesty, these causes were so far removed, that only one *general* wish remained ungratified, viz. *a Parliamentary Reform*; to which was incidentally annexed, the business of *Catholic emancipation*.—By the latter expression we are to understand, an admittance of the Romanists to a *share in the legislature*.—

Ireland, at different times, these forty years past, has been disturbed by insurgents under various denominations;—*Hearts of Oak Boys*,—*Hearts of Steel Boys*—*White Boys*,—and *Defenders*,—in their turns violated the peace of the country, from various pre-

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tences

tences of complaint.—All these consisted principally of persons professing the Roman Catholic religion;—and their *clergy* were not inactive upon such occasions.—The *White Boys* continued to annoy the southern part of this kingdom, from the year 1728 to 1765, and it has been proved, that the then titular archbishop of Cashel was instrumental in encouraging these offences, and had sworn some of his priests—to be true to the Church of Rome—to the Pretender—to the extirpation of heresy,—and to assist the French in an intended invasion——It is unnecessary to mention here the name of *Father Sheehy*, who being a partaker in these atrocities, was convicted and executed from the fullest evidence.—In 1774, and 1786, the province of Munster was much agitated by a set of popish insurgents, of the same denomination, who committed the most horrid outrages.

It may appear somewhat extraordinary, that notwithstanding such acts of public insurrection, the Romanists should latterly have obtained the most signal indulgence:—But, these disturbances were generally attributed to the lower class of people merely; and did not appear to have been formed with any determined view of overturning the government.—In 1791 the society of *United Irishmen* was instituted, and from it's commencement, the real purpose of it's principal members, was evidently to separate Ireland from Great-Britain, and to subvert the established constitution of this kingdom. Parliamentary reform, and Catholic emancipation were, however, held out as the ostensible objects of this union.—

For



For some time previous to this institution, the northern part of the kingdom was infested with a popish banditti, styling themselves *Defenders*, whose professed object was to deprive the *protestants* of fire-arms, and other weapons of defence.—These at last spread themselves over most of the counties of Leinster and Ulster; and in the end, became auxiliaries to the UNITED IRISHMEN.—In 1792, they attacked and plundered near 200 houses in the county of Louth; and in 1793, 1794, 1795, and 1796 the counties of Armagh, Cavan, Fermanagh, Donegal, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Sligo, Meath, and Dublin, were agitated to an alarming degree.—What was intended by thus disarming *protestants*, is easily perceived.

In June 1791, a paper was circulated in *Dublin*, giving a prospectus of the society of *united Irishmen*; and commencing with the following paragraph.—  
 “It is proposed, that at this conjuncture, a SOCIETY shall be instituted in *this city*, having much of  
 “the secrecy and somewhat of the ceremonial attached of *Free-masonry*—with so much secrecy as  
 “may communicate curiosity, uncertainty, and expectation to the minds of surrounding men;—with  
 “so much impressive and affecting ceremony in all  
 “it’s internal œconomy, as without impeding real  
 “business, may strike the soul through the senses,  
 “and addressing the *whole* man, may animate his  
 “philosophy by the energy of his passions.”—  
 After stating at large the views of this *society*, it proceeds thus—“What are the *means* of procuring  
 “such reform in the constitution as may secure to the  
 “people,

“ people, their rights most effectually and most speedily?—What is the plan of reform most suited to this country?—Can the renovation in the constitution, which we all deem necessary, be accomplished by the *ways* of the constitution?—*The Evil* (says JUNIUS) *lies too deep to be cured by any remedy, less than some great convulsion, which may bring back the constitution to it's original principles, or UTTERLY DESTROY IT.*”——Nothing can more clearly shew, that this society was intended originally, to cause that *great convulsion* which might utterly destroy the constitution, than the expression which was thus quoted.——But farther.——“ To gain a knowledge of the real state of this heterogeneous country,” (says the writer) “to form a summary of the national will and pleasure, in points most interesting to national happiness; and when such a summary is formed, to put this *doctrine* as speedily as may be into *practice*, will be the purpose of this central society or Lodge; from which, other lodges in the different towns, will radiate.”——He afterwards proceeded to observe what the *external* business of this society would be; viz.—1st,—“ Publication, in order to propagate their principles, and effectuate their ends.”——2d.—“ Communication with the different towns to be assiduously kept up; and every exertion used to accomplish a *national convention* of the people of Ireland, who may profit by past errors; and by many unexpected circumstances which have happened since the last meeting.” 3d,—“ Communication with *similar* societies abroad; as, the JACOBIN CLUB in Paris;—the REVOLUTION SOCIETY

“SOCIETY in England;—the COMMITTEE FOR RE-  
 “FORM in Scotland. &c.”—It would be an idle ap-  
 plication of time, to make any explanatory observa-  
 tions on this publication; as it shews, in terms strong  
 as language can express, what were to be the views  
 and sentiments of this extraordinary association.—  
 The attachment, however, which the *United Irishmen*,  
 or their leaders, had to *French* revolutionary princi-  
 ples, may be remarked from several expressions in  
 the paper already mentioned, and other subsequent  
 publications;—the former contains this passage.—  
 “On the 14th of July, the day which *shall ever com-*  
 “*memorate the French revolution*, let this society pour  
 “out their first libation to European liberty, eventua-  
 “ally the liberty of the world; and with their hands  
 “joined in each other, and their eyes raised to Hea-  
 “ven, in his presence who breathed into them an  
 “ever-living soul, let them swear to maintain the  
 “rights and prerogatives of their nature, as men; and  
 “the right and prerogative of Ireland, as an inde-  
 “pendent people.”

In November, 1791, this society was, at length,  
 formed in *Dublin*, as appears from it's address to the  
 Irish Nation, dated 25th of January, 1793, which  
 begins thus:—“On the 9th of November, 1791,  
 “was this society founded. We, and our Brethren  
 “of *Belfast*, first began that *civic union*, which, if  
 “a nation be a society united for mutual advantage,  
 “has made Ireland a nation, &c.”—This address con-  
 cludes with “*a plan of an equal representation of the*  
 “*people of Ireland in the House of Commons*.”—which  
 plan



plan contains this very remarkable proposal, viz.—  
 “*That no property qualification should be necessary to entitle any man to be a representative.*”—If by this it is to be understood, that the *tinker, cobbler, news-hawker, or shoe-boy*, should be as admissible as any other into the representative body of the nation, we can never sufficiently *admire* the *blessed reform* that was *intended*!

According to the constitution of the society of United Irishmen, as first agreed on, every person elected a member thereof, was to take and subscribe the following test, viz.—“I, A. B. in the presence of God, do pledge myself to my country, that I will use all my abilities and influence in the attainment of an impartial and adequate representation of the Irish nation in parliament; and, as a means of absolute and immediate necessity in the establishment of this chief good of Ireland, I will endeavour, as much as lies in my ability, to forward a brotherhood of affection, an identity of interests, a communion of rights, and an union of power among Irishmen of all religious persuasions; without which, every reform in parliament must be partial, not national; inadequate to the wants, delusive to the wishes, and insufficient for the freedom and happiness of this country.”—In the society, were to be different committees, viz.—A committee of *constitution*, of *finance*, of *correspondence*, and of *accommodation*: and to defray the necessary expences, and establish a fund for the use of the society, each ordinary member was to pay one guinea admif-

admission fee, and half a guinea every six months. The secretary was to be furnished with a common seal, having the impression of a harp;—at the top, “*I am now strung;*”—At the bottom, “*I will be heard:*”—and on the exergue, “*society of United Irishmen of Dublin.*”

Thus far, as to the first formation of *United Irishmen*.—And though a *reform in parliament* was held out as the material object, and was that which gave rise to the institution, yet the influence of the Romanists fully appears, from the following passage in an address of the society to the delegates for promoting a reform in *Scotland*, dated 23d of November, 1792.—“In this society,” (i. e. the society in Dublin) “and it’s *affiliated* societies, the Catholic and the Presbyterian, are, at this instant, holding out their hands and opening their hearts to each other; agreeing in principles, concurring in practice.—We unite for *immediate, ample, and substantial* justice to the Catholics, and, when *that* is attained, a combined exertion for a *reform in parliament*, is the condition of our compact, and the seal of our communion.”

In proportion, however, to the progress of *French* interference with the affairs of this country, the idea of a reform in the representation of the people, vanished; and a new organization of the society took place in the month of August, 1797; under which, the nature of it’s constitution was expressed in these terms.—“This society is constituted for the purpose of forwarding a brotherhood of affection, a communion

“munition of rights, and an union of power among  
 “Irishmen of every religious persuasion; and there-  
 “by to obtain a *complete reform* in the LEGISLATURE,  
 “founded on the principles of *civil, political, and*  
 “*religious liberty*.”—The following test, also, was  
 substituted for the former.—“In the awful presence  
 “of God, I, A. B. do voluntarily declare, that I  
 “will persevere in endeavouring to form a brother-  
 “hood of affection among Irishmen of *every* religi-  
 “ous persuasion; and that I will also persevere in  
 “my endeavours to obtain an equal, full, and ade-  
 “quate representation of *all* the people of Ireland.  
 “I do further declare, that neither hopes, fears, re-  
 “wards, or punishments, shall ever induce me, di-  
 “rectly or indirectly, to inform on, or give evidence  
 “against any member or members of this or similar  
 “societies, for any act or expression of theirs, done  
 “or made collectively or individually, in or out of  
 “this society, in pursuance of the spirit of this obliga-  
 “tion.”—The alteration of this test appears (from the  
 evidence of *Dr. McNevin* before the secret commit-  
 tee of the House of Lords, 7th of August, 1798) to  
 have been made for the purpose of reconciling *re-*  
*formers* and *republicans*; the principle of reform hav-  
 ing been relinquished, and *republicanism* determined  
 on.—This gentleman’s testimony contains some curi-  
 ous and interesting particulars, which the reader will  
 find collected in the notes. (R)

From the society which had been established in  
*Dublin* in 1791, many similar societies were formed  
 through different parts of the kingdom; and the  
 country



country was in such a disturbed state in 1793, that it was thought necessary to make a parliamentary enquiry into the causes of it:—In consequence of which, a report was made from a secret committee of the house of lords, stating substantially as follows.—That the people then called *Defenders*, were very different from those who originally assumed the appellation; and were all (as far as the committee could discover) of the Roman Catholic persuasion; in general, poor, ignorant, labouring men, sworn to secrecy, and impressed with an opinion that they were assisting the catholic cause:—that, in other respects, they did not appear to have any distinct particular object in view; but talked of being relieved from hearth-money, (S) tithes, county cesses, and of lowering their rents.—That they first appeared in the county of *Louth* in considerable bodies, in the month of April, in that year, several of them being armed: that they assembled mostly in the night; and forced into the houses of Protestants, and took from them their arms.—That the disorders soon spread to the counties of Meath, Cavan, Monaghan, and other parts adjacent:—At first, they took nothing but arms; but afterwards they plundered the houses of every thing they could find.—Their measures appear to have been concerted and conducted with the utmost secrecy, and a degree of regularity and system not usual in people of such mean condition, and as if directed by men of superior rank.—Sums of money to a considerable amount, were levied upon the Roman Catholics in all parts of the kingdom, by subscriptions and collections at their chapels and elsewhere;

where; and several inflammatory papers dispersed through the country, to encourage their proceedings. That an unusual ferment had for some months disturbed several parts of the north, particularly the town of *Belfast*, and the county of *Antrim*; which was encouraged by seditious publications issued from certain societies of men in Belfast and Dublin, calling themselves committees, and carrying on a constant correspondence.—The conduct of the *French* was recommended to public view, as an example of imitation; and expectations held up of their assistance, by a descent upon this kingdom.—That military associations had been newly levied and arrayed;—and a body of men associated themselves in Dublin, under the title of the *first national battalion*, whose uniform was copied from the French; green turned up with white, white waistcoat and striped trowsers, gilt buttons, impressed with a harp, and letters importing, “*first national battalion*,” no crown, but a device over the harp, of a *cap of liberty* upon a *pike*.—The declared object of these military bodies was, to procure a reform in parliament; but the obvious intention appeared to be, to overawe the parliament and the government, and to dictate to both!

As the different reports which have been since made on this subject, by the secret committees of both houses of parliament, furnish us with the fullest information respecting the secret progress of the rebellion, we shall extract from them whatever is necessary for the purpose, in order that our statement of facts may be accompanied with unquestionable authority.

By

By the report of the secret committee of the house of commons in 1797, it appears that considerable preparations had been then made for general insurrection.——The societies of *united Irishmen* were numerous; their system had become perfectly military,—*pikes* and other weapons of destruction were secretly collected by them, with a very great quantity of ammunition, and even some field-pieces.——A circumstance took place in that year, which occasioned a most important discovery.—On the 14th of April, col. Barber, lieut. Ellison of the artillery, and some others, having received information that some committees of united men, were to assemble at the house of John Alexander, in the town of *Belfast*; they entered the house and seized several persons, as also several papers, (belonging to one of these committees), that had been there concealed.—These papers are referred to by the *report* already mentioned, and disclose the nature and regulations of the society;—they contain the returns made of the state and strength of the *united men* in different districts, and the sums of money collected, and how applied.——One of them states the number of men then in arms, as follows; Antrim, 22,922,—Down, 16000,—Derry, 10,000,—Tyrone, 6,860,—Armagh, 4000,—Monaghan, 3,020,—Donegal, 5,000,—Cavan, 1,000,—Meath, 1,776,—Fermanagh, 2,000,—Louth, 2,060, *total men*, 72,206;—In the town of Belfast alone, is stated to have been 2639 men,—526 guns,—399 bayonets,—88 pistols,—597 pikes,—12,130 ball-cartridges,—15,953 balls,—566 lbs. of powder,—6 cannon,—1 mortar.——Several other returns of the like



like kind were discovered, which cannot here be inserted ; but it appears from the whole, that the sums of money collected, were rather inconsiderable.

The whole success of this conspiracy, and the expectation of its leaders depended upon the succours to be received from *France* :—One of the papers alluded to, expressly says,—“ *our friends are expected soon into Bantry ;*” and adds,—“ *set your face against Bank notes and extise business, as that is the best means to barraßs the government.*”——The information of Charles Mc.Fillin, given on oath, before Sir G. F. Hill, bart. a magistrate of Londonderry, mentions that,—*foreign aid was immediately expected, and that the United Irishmen, were to hold themselves in readiness to rise.*—He asserted, that he was sworn to become a united Irishman, about the month of June, 1796 ;—that according to the *constitution* of united Irishmen, each society must consist of at least *seven* persons ;—that it required delegates from at least three societies to make a baronial committee, and that *two* delegates from each baronial committee formed a county committee ; and *two* or *three* delegates from each county committee formed the provincial committee. That there was an Executive Directory, which consisted of *twenty-five* persons, one of whom always attended the provincial meeting, in order to communicate intelligence, and give orders to be carried by the members of the provincial meeting, to their next county meeting, and from the county meeting to the baronial, and from these to the lowest societies.—Each committee had a *treasurer* and a *secretary* ; and it was the business of the treasurer, of the lowest society,

society, to collect so much money per week from each member, which was paid by the different delegates of the different societies, progressively from one to the other, 'till it reached the provincial committee, who then paid the money to the executive directory, who always attended for the purpose ; and once in every three months the directory gave an account to the provincial of the manner in which the former sums received had been disposed of.—Returns likewise of arms, ammunition and men were made, from the lowest society to the delegates, through the different committees, the baronial, the county and the provincial, and from this last to the executive directory, who always attended the provincial committee.

The many and horrid outrages committed in different counties in this kingdom, during the summer of 1796, induced the legislature to pass a temporary act of parliament generally called "*The insurrection act*," by which the Lord lieutenant and council were enabled, upon the requisition of seven magistrates of any county, assembled at the sessions of the peace, to proclaim the whole or any part thereof, to be in a state of disturbance ; within which limits this law, giving increased power to the magistracy, was to have operation : and many districts were put under the provisions of that act.—The parliament assembled that year, in October ; and the dangerous progress of these treasonable designs, and the active preparations of *France*, for the invasion of this kingdom, were announced in the speech from the throne.—An act was also passed (37 Geo. 3d. ch. 37.) for suspending

pending the *habeas corpus act*, and an armed yeomanry was established, which in the course of a few months were arrayed, and amounted to 37,000 men; and during the late rebellion exceeded 58,000.—On the 6th of November, the lord lieutenant and council issued a proclamation, reciting several atrocities that had been committed, and treasonable associations form'd in several of the northern counties,—that several persons had assembled and broke into one of his majesty's stores in the town of *Belfast*, and there-out took and carried away ten barrels of gun-powder.—That on the 1st of Nov. a considerable number of armed men, entered *Stewartstown*, in the co. Ty-rone, and cut and maimed several of it's peaceable inhabitants, who had refused to join in their associations.—That many large bodies of men had assembled in military order, with music, and marched through different districts, under pretence of *saving corn* and *digging potatoes*,—to the great terror of his majesty's loyal and faithful subjects;—and therefore, said proclamation called on all magistrates, and all officers, *civil* and *military*, to prevent such practices, and to bring the offenders to justice;—for which purpose necessary orders were issued to the several officers of his majesty's forces in this kingdom, to be aiding and assisting the civil magistrates in the execution of their duty.

The necessity of thus putting the country, in some measure, under the controul and power of the *military*, and the measures which government thought proper to pursue on the occasion, appears from Mr.

*Pelham's*



*Pelham's* official letter to general *Lake*, dated 3d of March, 1797 :—" I am commanded (says he) by  
 " my Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you, that, from  
 " the information received by his excellency with  
 " respect to the various parts of the north of Ireland,  
 " additional measures, to those already employed for  
 " preserving the public peace, are become necessary.  
 " It appears, that in the counties of Down, Antrim,  
 " Derry, and Donegal, secret and treasonable associ-  
 " ations still continue to an alarming degree; and  
 " that the persons concerned in these associations are  
 " attempting to defeat all the exertions of the loyal  
 " and well disposed, by the means of terror:—that  
 " they threatened the lives of all who shall venture,  
 " from regard to their duty and oath of allegiance,  
 " to discover their treasons:—that they assemble, in  
 " great numbers, at night; and, by threats and force,  
 " disarm the peaceable inhabitants:—that they have  
 " fired on his majesty's justices of the peace, when  
 " endeavouring to apprehend them in their nocturnal  
 " robberies:—that they threaten, by papers, letters,  
 " and notices, the persons of those who shall, in  
 " any manner, resist or oppose them:—that, in their  
 " nightly excursions for the purpose of disarming his  
 " majesty's loyal subjects, they disguise their persons  
 " and countenances:—that they endeavour to collect  
 " great quantities of arms in concealed hiding places:  
 " that they have cut down great numbers of trees on  
 " the estates of the gentry, for the purpose of mak-  
 " ing Pikes; and that they have stolen great quanti-  
 " ties of lead for the purpose of casting bullets:—  
 " that they privately by night, exercise themselves  
 " in

“ in the practice of arms :—that they endeavour to  
 “ intimidate persons from joining the yeomanry corps  
 “ established by law, in order to resist a foreign  
 “ enemy :—that they refuse to employ in manufac-  
 “ tures, those who enlist in said corps :—that they  
 “ not only threaten, but ill-treat the persons of the  
 “ yeomanry; and even attack their houses by night,  
 “ and proceed to the barbarous extremity of delibe-  
 “ rate and shocking murder, as was exemplified in  
 “ their recent attack and murder by night of Mr.  
 “ *Comyns of Newtownards*;—and that they profess a  
 “ resolution to assist the enemies of his majesty, if  
 “ they should be enabled to land in this kingdom, &c.  
 “ His Excellency has commanded me, to communi-  
 “ cate to you his positive orders, that you take the  
 “ most immediate and decisive measures for disposing  
 “ of the military force under your command, aided  
 “ by the yeomanry corps, for immediately disarming  
 “ all persons who shall not bear his majesty’s commis-  
 “ sion, or are acting under persons so commissioned;  
 “ and after making such dispositions, you are requi-  
 “ red to carry such disarming into effect,” &c. — His  
 “ Excellency further authorises you to employ force  
 “ against any persons assembled in arms, not legally  
 “ authorised so to be; to disperse all tumultuous as-  
 “ semblies of persons, though they may not be in  
 “ arms, without waiting for the sanction and assistance  
 “ of the civil authority, if, in your opinion, the peace  
 “ of the realm, or the safety of his majesty’s faithful  
 “ subjects, may be endangered by waiting for such  
 “ authority.—His Excellency further authorises you,  
 “ to consider those parts of the country where the  
 “ outrages

“outrages before stated have been committed, as  
 “where they shall arise, as being in a state that re-  
 “quires all the measures of exertion and precaution  
 “which a country, depending upon military force  
 “alone for its protection, would require; and you  
 “are therefore required to station your troops with  
 “a view to interrupt communication between those  
 “whom you may suspect of evil designs;—to esta-  
 “blish patrols on the high roads or other passes;  
 “and to stop all persons passing and repassing after  
 “certain hours of the night:—And, in order com-  
 “pletely to carry into effect any orders or regulati-  
 “ons which, in the circumstances of the case, may be  
 “considered by you as necessary, you are authorised  
 “to issue notices, stating the regulations, and calling  
 “upon his majesty’s subjects to be aiding and assisting  
 “therein.”—

Pursuant to these powers, general *Lake* issued a no-  
 tice or proclamation at *Belfast*, the 13th of March,  
 1797, stating the before-mentioned circumstances,  
 and requiring all persons in that district (peace-offi-  
 cers, and those serving in a military capacity, excep-  
 ted) to bring in and surrender up all arms and am-  
 munition in their possession, to the officer command-  
 ing the king’s troops in their neighbourhood:—and  
 inviting all persons enabled to give information touch-  
 ing concealed arms, to communicate the same to the  
 several officers commanding his majesty’s forces in  
 their respective districts.

Notwithstanding the considerable quantity of arms  
 which were then in the Hands of the disaffected,

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compa-



comparatively few were obtained by the search made in Ulster by general *Lake's* orders; and in April following, acts of violence of every description became more frequent.—On the 17th of May, the lord lieutenant and council issued a proclamation forewarning all persons to abstain from entering into the societies of UNITED IRISHMEN; and commanding all persons knowing of such societies, to give evidence thereof; and to discover all concealed pikes and offensive weapons, and deliver up the same:—at the same time a promise of pardon was held out to such offenders as should, before the 24th of June following, surrender themselves to any of his majesty's justices of the peace, &c.—All these measures, however, proved, for some time, ineffectual;—neither threatnings, or offers of forgiveness, had their due influence on the deluded multitude;—on the contrary, a general insurrection in Ulster was decided on, and the plan of attack for each county arranged.—The intention transpired, and was defeated by the active exertions of the army: altho' a partial rising did take place near the mountains in the county of *Down*; where the insurgents, finding themselves unsupported, soon dispersed.—After this event, the arms of the disaffected were collected in great numbers throughout the province; and many persons came forward to take the benefit of the proclamation of pardon, which was extended for another month.—Tranquillity now seemed to return:—the provinces of Munster and Connaught manifested a loyal disposition;—many societies of *United Irishmen* discontinued their meetings; and the strength of the organization (exclusively of Ulster) lay chiefly in

in the metropolis and it's neighbouring counties, Dublin, Kildare, Meath, Westmeath, and the King's co. The active leaders, however, of this dreadful conspiracy, were not idle or intimidated.—They determined to direct all their exertions to the propagation of their system in those provinces which had hitherto been but partially infected.—With this view, emissaries were sent into the *south* and *west* in great numbers; who, at last, proved too successful in introducing the same disturbances in *Munster*, with which the northern province had been so severely visited.

In order to engage the peasantry in the southern counties, particularly *Waterford* and *Cork*, more earnestly in their cause, the United Irishmen, in urging their general principles, dwelt, with peculiar energy, on the oppressiveness of tythes; and the old *Whiteboy* practices of burning corn, and houghing the cattle of those against whom their resentment was dictated, were very generally practised in those counties. The better also to excite the resentment of the Romanists, fabricated and false tests were represented as having been taken to exterminate them, and were industriously disseminated through the provinces of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught.—Reports were frequently circulated amongst the ignorant of that denomination, that large bodies of men were approaching to put them to death:—The seduction of the military was also attempted; and printed papers circulated amongst the privates and non-commissioned officers, urging them to insubordination and revolt.

So

So early as 1796, the revolutionists received intimation from one of their society (then at Paris) that the state of this country had been represented to the government of France in such a manner, as to induce them to resolve on sending a force to Ireland, for the purpose of enabling it to separate itself from Great Britain; and an extraordinary meeting of the executive of the union was convened, to take the proposal into consideration.—The result of their deliberations was, to accept of the assistance thus held out to them by the French directory.—An agent was accordingly dispatched to acquaint the directory with this determination, who received assurances that the French armament should be sent as speedily as it could be prepared.—Accordingly, a messenger from the French republic arrived here in October, 1796, to communicate to the leaders of the conspiracy, that the French intended to invade this kingdom speedily with 1500 men, and a great quantity of arms and ammunition :—which attempt was actually made in the month of December following—when a French fleet, with a large body of troops on board, arrived at *Bantry-bay*:—Happily, however, their designs were, at this time, frustrated.

From the failure of this expedition, until the beginning of the ensuing year, the disaffected seemed to expect the immediate return of the enemy :—but in the spring of 1797, the executive of the union, thinking the French dilatory in their preparations, dispatched a confidential person to press for assistance. The northern part of the kingdom became now anxious



ious and impatient for insurrection; and the executive of the union, fearing a premature rising might take place, sent a second agent to France still more warmly to urge a speedy assistance.—This agent was authorised to give France assurances of being repaid the full expences of any future armament she might send to Ireland, as well as of the last which had miscarried; the same to be raised by the confiscation of the lands of the church, and of the property of their opposers.—He was also charged to negotiate, if possible, a loan on the above security to the amount of half a million, or at least £.300,000, for the immediate purposes of the union;—and directions were given him, that in case *France* could not be prevailed on to advance so large a sum, he should address himself to the court of *Spain* for that purpose,

However desirous the executive of the union were of obtaining assistance in men, arms and money, they were yet averse to a greater force being sent than might enable them to subvert the government, and retain the power of the country in their own hands; but the French were wholly disinclined to send any force here which might not, from its magnitude, give them hopes of conquering the kingdom, and retaining it afterwards in subjection to themselves.

Previous to this mission from Ireland, a confidential person was sent by the French Directory to collect information respecting the state of this country; but failing to obtain the necessary passports in London for coming over here, he wrote to request, that  
a person

a person might be sent from hence to meet him in London.—On this occasion, it is said, the late *Lord Edward Fitzgerald* was deputed to furnish the French agent with every necessary intelligence.—The directory, on their part, gave the Irish agents sent to *Paris*, the strongest assurances of support;—and did accordingly, during the summer, make preparations of a very extensive nature, both at the *Texel* and at *Brest*, for the invasion of Ireland:—and in the autumn following, the executive of the union received intelligence, that the troops were actually embarked at the *Texel*, and only waited for a favourable wind.

In the beginning of October, when the Dutch fleet was on the point of sailing, the approach of the enemy was announced to the societies as at hand:—the troops had been actually on board, commanded by general *Daendells*, but were suddenly disembarked.—But the Dutch fleet, contrary to the opinion of their own admiral (as is generally believed) was, at the instance of the French government, obliged to put to sea;—which led to admiral *Duncan's* memorable victory of the 11th of October, 1797.

The leaders of the North, and those of Leinster, differ'd materially, in opinion:—The latter were not inclined for immediate insurrection;—the former had grown impatient; and wished to push matters forward, without waiting any longer for foreign assistance.—These now proposed acting without the approbation of the Leinster delegates; and their plan was, to seize the castle of Dublin, ordnance stores, magazine, &c. and to trust to the mob of Dublin for assistance.

assistance. (T) From some military precautions at that time adopted in the garrison, this plan was abandoned. †

In February, 1798, a military committee was appointed by the executive; and detailed military instructions were issued by the adjutant-generals of the union; by which they were required, to report the state of the rebel regiments within their districts; the number of mills, the roads, rivers, bridges and fords; the military positions; the capacity of the towns and villages to receive troops; to communicate the movements of the king's troops; to announce the first appearance of the French; and immediately to collect their force, &c. &c.

Scarcely a night now passed, without numerous murders:—In many places, the loyal inhabitants were obliged

† That the insurgents of Ulster intended an actual rising in 1797, appears from several papers which were seized, and are now published in the 14th appendix to the *report* of the house of commons in 1798:—stating, that on the 17th of June, 1797, a meeting of colonels was held for the county of Down, at *Saintfield*; when one of them told the captains of his regiment, that it was the determination of the national committee to make a rising in the next week; and desired them to go home, and cause their men to prepare their arms.—On the 3th of that month, messages passed between the adjutant-general of Down and the colonels; they urged the adjutant-general to put the county of Down in motion, or, that if he declined it, they would find a man who could do so.—A message was also received, and delivered upon oath, that the county of *Antrim* intended seizing on the magistrates assembled at Antrim at the *Sessions*, as hostages, at the beginning of their rising.



obliged to fly for shelter into the garrison towns;—and, in open day, about 800 insurgents, principally mounted, invested the town of *Cahir*, in the county of Tipperary; held possession of it, until they had made regular search in every house; and carried off, in triumph, all the arms and ammunition they could find.

The prudent measures taken by government baffled, however, for some time, the designs of the insurgents;—and from the accurate information that was received, several of the Leinster provincial committee were, on the 12th of March following, arrested, and their papers seized, at the house of Mr. *Oliver Bond*, in Bridge-street, Dublin.—These papers discovered a plan for a general rising; the outline of which was, to surprise the metropolis, the camp then at *Laughlinstown*, and the artillery stationed at *Chapelizod*, on the same night; in which attack, the counties of Dublin, Wicklow, and Kildare were to co-operate.—The insurrection being commenced, (the signal for announcing which, was to be the detention of the mail coaches) it was expected the north and south would also rise.—The Reader may find a particular detail of the circumstances above stated, with corroborative proofs, in the printed report of the secret committee of the house of commons, 1798, and the several appendixes thereto annexed.

On the 11th of May, the lord lieutenant and council issued a proclamation for the apprehension of Lord *Edward Fitzgerald*; information having been received, that he was principally concerned in the rebellion;

on;—and on the 19th, he was taken into custody by *W. B. Swan*, esq; assisted by *Capt. Ryan* of the yeomanry, and deputy town-major *Sirr*.—Against this attempt, his lordship made such a vigorous resistance, that both Captain Ryan and Lord Edward shortly after died of the wounds they had mutually received. Mr. Swan was also dangerously wounded by Lord Edward, but providentially recovered.—This arrest was made at the house of Mr. *Murphy*, a feather-merchant, in *Thomas-street*, Dublin.—Captain Ryan died the 30th of May; and Lord Edward expired, in great agony, on the 3d of June following.

On the 21st of May, an official letter from Lord *Castlereagh* was received by the *Lord Mayor*, as follows:—

“I am directed by the lord lieutenant to inform  
 “your lordship, that the disaffected in the city and  
 “neighbourhood of Dublin, have been daring enough  
 “to form a plan for the purpose of possessing them-  
 “selves, in the course of the present week, of the  
 “metropolis; and of seizing the executive govern-  
 “ment, and those of authority within the city.—  
 “His excellency, fully informed of their designs, has  
 “made the necessary military arrangements for com-  
 “pletely defeating their desperate purpose, and for  
 “giving the fullest security to the persons and pro-  
 “perty of the loyal and well-disposed.—His excel-  
 “lency, nevertheless, feels it his duty to intimate  
 “their traiterous designs to your lordship; and relies,  
 “that, in conjunction with the magistracy and the  
 “king’s

“ king’s loyal subjects, you will exert the utmost possible energy in preserving tranquility within the bounds of the metropolis ;——that your lordship, without loss of time, will cause the strictest search to be made for concealed arms ; and adopt such measures of general precaution, as shall appear best calculated to defeat the designs of the rebellious against the king’s government and our invaluable constitution.”—In consequence of this letter, a cautionary notice was circulated by the chief magistrate, requesting his fellow-citizens to keep within their houses as much as possible, after sun-set, in that time of peril, as the streets should be kept as clear as possible, in case any tumult or rising to support rebellion should be attempted, in order that the troops might act with effect, in case of any disturbance, without injuring the innocent.

Thus far, as to the private proceedings of the conspirators, previous to the public insurrection, which was now about to take place.



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## Irish Rebellion, 1798.

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### P A R T III.

*History of the Rebellion, from the insurrection in May, to the defeat of the French and Rebel army in August, 1798.*

**T**HE Rebellion of 1641, commenced on the *Twenty-third* of October.—that of 1798, broke out on the *Twenty-third* of May; on the night of which, the *northren* mail-coach was stopped at *Santry*, (within a few miles of *Dublin*) by means of cars which were placed in a certain part of the road, so as to obstruct the passage of the coach, which having arrived at this point, was surrounded by some armed persons, who said they did not intend any harm, but merely wished to prevent the contents of the mail from falling into the hands of a great body of insurgents, that were a little further on.—The coachman and guard, conceiving by such language, that their obstruction proceeded from no evil design, made no resistance; they with the passengers were persuaded to go into a house near the road, and were undeceived

undeceived only by seeing the coach in a few moments in flames.—In the adjacent fields a body of the rebels, amounting to about 1000, were assembled: No injury was done to the passengers; and a small remnant of the letters was brought half-burnt to the post-office.—The *Connaught* mail was also stopped between Lucan and Leixlip, broken to pieces, and the letters destroyed.

This was the signal for insurrection:—and accordingly on the following day, a large body of insurgents assembled between *Crumlin* and *Tallagh*, in the neighbourhood of *Saggard*, (a) all armed, and most of them well mounted: they were opposed by the yeomanry in that quarter; who fired upon them, but without effect, and were obliged to retreat.—A reinforcement of cavalry, (the 5th dragoons, commanded by lord Roden) some time after arrived, between whom and the insurgents a conflict ensued, in which three of the latter were killed, and about 30 taken prisoners.—A quantity of pikes were also taken, and two carts.—Some of the dead bodies were brought to Dublin, and exposed, during the whole of that day in the castle-yard:—and the 5th dragoons, in returning to camp, carried through the city, as trophies, the horse and boots belonging to one of the deceased.—The insurgents were armed with pistols, swords, blunderbusses, and pikes.

Every

(a) *Crumlin* is a Village in the county of Dublin, about two miles from the metropolis.—*Tallagh*, in the same County, is distant about five miles:—And *Saggard*, in the same neighbourhood, is distant about seven miles.

Every necessary precaution was now taken for the defence of the metropolis.—The several corps of yeomanry were stationed at alarm posts;—cannon were placed in the avenues leading to the castle;—the military preparations wore the most awful appearance; and expresses continually arrived, giving the intelligence of those disturbances which daily took place in different parts of the kingdom.

We shall endeavour to state these partial insurrections, as correctly as possible, in the order of time in which they occurred, and thereby shew the gradual proceedings of the rebels.

1798 } On this day, at about half past two  
 24th May. } o'clock in the morning, the rebels made  
 ————— } a regular attack upon the town of *Naas*, (b)  
 of which the following account is given by Lord *Gosford* and Major *Wardle*, in a letter to Lieut.-gen. *Lake*.  
 “ A dragoon from an outpost came in, and informed  
 “ Major *Wardle* of the Antient British, that a very  
 “ considerable armed body was approaching rapidly  
 “ upon the town;—the whole garrison were instant-  
 “ ly under arms, and took their position according to  
 “ a plan previously formed, in case of such an event  
 “ happening.— They made an attack upon our troops  
 “ posted near the goal, with great violence, but were  
 “ repulsed:—they then made a general attack in al-  
 “ most every direction, as they had got possession of  
 “ almost every avenue into the town:—They conti-  
 “ nued

(b) *Naas* is a borough town in the county of *Kildare*, above 14 miles from *Dublin*.



“nued to engage the troops for near three quarters of an hour, when they gave way, and fled on all sides.—The cavalry immediately took advantage of their confusion, charged in almost every direction, and killed a great number of them.”—It appears that the rebels at this place were above 1000 strong: about 30 of them were killed in the streets, and above 100 in the fields;—a great quantity of arms and pikes were taken; and much more was shortly afterwards found in pits near the town.

The same day, other attacks were made by the rebels in different parts of the counties of *Kildare* and *Wicklow*.—About one o’clock, they appeared in the neighbourhood of *Baltinglass*, (c) to the amount of at least four or five hundred.—Thirty of the Antrim militia, under the command of Lieutenant *Maccauley* and Cornet *Love*, with twenty of the 9th dragoons, were sent to attack them;—but the instant that they were advancing upon them in the town of *Stratford* upon *Slaney*, (d) Captain *Stratford* appeared at the other end of the town, with part of his corps:—The rebels were attacked on both sides, and compleatly routed, leaving near 200 men killed, besides many wounded, amongst those who had made their escape. (e)

The

(c) *Baltinglass* is a borough town, situated on the river *Slaney*, in the county of *Wicklow*, 29 miles south of *Dublin*.

(d) *Stratford* on *Slaney*, is situated on the river *Slaney*, in the county of *Wicklow*, 26 miles from *Dublin*.

(e) Vid. Letter from Lieutenant *Maccauley* of the Antrim militia, to Major *Hardy*.

The town of *Prosperous* (*f*) also suffered considerably;—at which place, a party of the Cork militia, under Captain *Swayne*, was stationed.—Several of the rebels had, on the day before, made a surrender of their pikes to Captain *Swayne*, under a pretence of returning to their allegiance;—but on the 24th, the barrack was attacked, and set on fire; where Captain *Swayne*, and the whole detachment being locked up, were inhumanly destroyed.—Part of this town belonged to Mr. *Stamer*, who was also put to death by the insurgents; as was also Mr. *Brewer*, a respectable manufacturer, whose body was mangled with savage barbarity:—They also massacred a poor old man, upwards of seventy years of age, who had served as a serjeant in his majesty's forces:—and after committing these cruel atrocities, they exclaimed,—“*where are the heretics?—Down with the heretics!*”

At *Clain*, (*g*) an action took place; where the rebels were defeated by a party of the army and Mr. *Griffith's* yeomanry, who behaved with the greatest spirit.—A small party of the Suffolk Fencibles, moving from *Barretstown* to *Kildare*, were attacked in a narrow pass by a considerable force, and lost all their baggage.—In the neighbourhood of *Lucan*, (*b*) the

(*f*) *Prosperous* is situated in the county of *Kildare*, about 15 miles from *Dublin*—and was designed for carrying on cotton manufactures.

(*g*) *Clain* is also situated in the county *Kildare*, above fourteen miles from *Dublin*.

(*h*) *Lucan* is situated in the county of *Dublin*, about 7 miles from the metropolis.

the insurgents assembled with pikes, &c.—but a party of the military fell upon them, and routed them with great slaughter, leaving 90 of them dead on the field.—They likewise assembled near *Lusk*, (i) and proceeded to commit depredations:—they surprised and attacked ten men of the Fermanagh militia, but were at length routed, with the loss of 50 men killed, and a number taken prisoners.—At *Collon* (j) also, where they had collected in great force, they were completely routed.—The town of *Ballimore* was attacked; and at first the 9th dragoons were somewhat checked: however, they rallied, and beat the insurgents;—but Captain *M'Farland* of the *Tyrone*, was unfortunately killed.

A principal conflict now took place near *Kilcullen*, (k) concerning which, the following particulars are extracted from a letter of Lieutenant-gen. *Dundas* to Lord Viscount *Castlereagh*, dated 25th of May, 1798.—“About 2 o'clock P. M. yesterday, I marched  
“out again to attack the rebels, who had assembled  
“in great force on the north side of the *Liffey*, and  
“were advancing towards *Kilcullen-bridge*—they occupied the hills on the left of the road leading to  
“Dublin, the road itself, and the fields, high inclosed on the right.—The attack began between three  
“and four—was made with great gallantry; the infantry

(i) *Lusk*, situated in the same county, 11 miles from Dublin.

(j) *Collon*, situated in the county of Louth, about 29 miles from Dublin.

(k) *Kilcullen*, situated in the county of Kildare, about 21 miles from Dublin.



“fantry forcing the enemy on the road, and driving them from the hills on the left;—the cavalry, with equal success, cutting off their retreat:—The affair ended soon after four;—the slaughter was considerable for such an action;—130 lay dead—no prisoners:—His majesty’s troops did not suffer in either killed or wounded.—The rebels left great quantities of arms behind them, and fled in all directions. General *Welford*, from Kildare, joined me last night. Captain *La Touche*’s corps of yeomanry distinguished themselves in a high stile.”—

Such were the pleasing accounts received of the defeat of the rebels in the different places before mentioned.—At the borders of the county of Dublin, however, near *Dunboyne*, (*l*) a rebel party assembled, who got possession of some military baggage, and committed many outrages.—Several of them also appeared in the neighbourhood of *Clondalkin*, (*m*) and about *Rathfarnham*: (*n*)—These were pursued and overtaken by a party of the military; many of them were killed, and others made prisoners:—The bodies of three of the most active and desperate of them, were brought to Dublin; they were hung up in *Barrack-street* for several hours, with the pikes which they carried affixed to them; and exhibited the most dread-

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(*l*) *Dunboyne* is situated in the county of Meath, 8 miles from Dublin.

(*m*) *Clondalkin*, a village situated in the county of Dublin, near 5 miles from the city.

(*n*) *Rathfarnham*, situated in the county of Dublin, about 3 miles from the metropolis.

ful examples of that rebellious spirit which had been infused into these deluded people.

25th May. } The insurgents approached towards  
 ————— } *Hacketstown*, (o) in consequence of which,  
 Lieutenant *Gardiner*, with the men under his command, and a party of yeomanry, commanded by Captain *Hardy*, went out to meet them.—Having reconnoitred their force, which amounted to between three and four thousand, they took post on the hill under the church; and when the rebels came tolerably near, the officers and men made a feint, and retreated into the barrack:—The rebels, seeing this, came forward with a great shout, imagining they were certain of victory;—but in a few minutes, Captain *Hume* came up with a party of his troop, and instantly charged them, on which they retreated;—A general pursuit took place—and so compleat was the rout, that above 500 of the miscreants lay dead on the field. The conduct of Captain *Hume* on this occasion, merited the highest applause; for though his right arm was in a sling, owing to a very severe fall from his horse, which prevented his using his sword, he headed his men with gallantry, and acted with a spirit which surprised every one, considering his situation\*. On the part of the loyalists, not one man was in the least injured, except one soldier who received a contusion in his arm; and Lieutenant *Gardiner*, who received a severe blow of a stone on the breast from a villain

(o) *Hacketstown*, situated in the county of *Carlow*, 44 miles from *Dublin*.

\* This gentleman was since cruelly murdered,

villain whose life he had just saved, and who was thereupon, shot dead on the spot.

The same day, a considerable body of the insurgents were defeated near *Dunlavin*, with the loss of near 300.—A party of them also, to the amount of several hundreds, were attacked by a detachment of militia and yeomanry, and driven into the town of *Balinglass*, with the loss of about 150 men.

26th May. } A great number of the rebels were now  
 ————— } collected at *Tara-hill*;—and the proceedings against them at this place are thus stated, in a letter from Captain *Scobie* of the Reay Fencibles to Lieut.-gen. *Lake*, dated *Dunshaughlin*, (p) May 27th. “The division, consisting of five companies of his “majesty’s Reay regiment of fencible infantry, which “I have the honor to command, arrived here yesterday morning, according to route, accompanied by “Lord *Fingal’s* troop of yeoman cavalry, Captain “*Preston’s* troop of cavalry, *Lower-Kells* do. and Captain *Molloy’s* company of yeoman infantry.—At half “past three P. M. I was informed that a considerable “force of the rebel insurgents had taken station on “*Tara-hill*; (q) I instantly detached three companies “of our division, with one field-piece, and the above “corps of yeomanry, to the spot, under the command of Captain *M’Lean* of the Reays; the issue of “which

(p) *Dunshaughlin*, situated in the county of Meath, 14 miles from Dublin.

(q) *Tara-hill*, situated in the county of Meath, nineteen miles from Dublin.



“ which answered my most sanguine expectation.—  
 “ The rebels fled in all directions;—350 were found  
 “ dead in the field this morning, among whom is their  
 “ commander, in full uniform.—Our loss is inconfi-  
 “ derable; being 9 rank and file killed, and 16 rank  
 “ and file wounded.”—

These disturbances now reached the county of *Wexford*.—The insurgents attacked the house of Mr. *Buckey* of *Rockspring*, (who was a lieutenant in the Earl of *Mountnorris's* corps of yeoman cavalry) which they burned to the ground.—An express was immediately sent off to Lord *Mountnorris* at his seat at *Camolun*; who being assisted by a detachment of the *Enniscorthy* and *Heathfield* corps, together with Captain *Richards* and Lieutenant *Jacob* of the *Enniscorthy* cavalry, Captain *Grogan* of the *Heathfield* cavalry, and a detachment of *Cornock's* infantry, proceeded for the place.—An advanced guard was detached from the main body; who, on their coming to the spot, found the insurgents burning the surrounding country:—They immediately commenced an attack on the yeomen; and unfortunately Lieutenant *Buckey*, who had the command, and a Mr. *Donavan*, were killed:—the remainder of the corps retreated, and having joined the main body, they advanced, attacked the rebels with great spirit, and completely routed them, having killed and wounded upwards of 40.—It was nearly an hour after Lieutenant *Buckey* and Mr. *Donavan* were killed, before the main body came into action; during which interval, the wretches glutted their savage fury by hacking and mangling the body

dy of the former gentleman, having covered him all over with wounds:—It is supposed there could not have been less than 250 of the rebels; some of whom had fire-arms; but, in general, they were armed with *pikes*.

27th May. } Advices having been received at *Wex-*  
 ——— } *ford* of these proceedings, and that the  
 rebels were in great force in the neighbourhood of *Oulard*, burning the houses of different protestant inhabitants in that part of the country, Lieutenant Colonel *Foote*, Major *Lombard*, and six other officers, with 106 men of the North Cork militia, immediately proceeded from the town, and came up with the rebels at an advantageous position they had taken on a hill near *Oulard*.—Whether from the fatigue of a long march, or whether from mismanagement, we shall not determine—but, in charging the rebels, the whole party were surrounded, and not a man escaped instant destruction, but the Lieutenant Colonel and two privates.—By this defeat of the army, the rebels acquired a powerful accession of strength and confidence; having got the whole of the arms, and about 57 rounds of ball cartridge from each man, they not having fired above three or four rounds, when they attempted to charge them with bayonets. — The following day, viz.—

28th May } The rebels attacked *Enniscorthy*; (r)  
 ——— } and after a severe conflict of three hours,  
 in

(r) *Enniscorthy*, a borough town in the county of *Wexford*, about 60 miles south of *Dublin*.

in which 500 of them were slain, they took the town; owing to the treachery of some of the inhabitants, who set it on fire during the engagement, which obliged the militia and yeomanry to evacuate it; and they, with all the loyal inhabitants that could escape, retired to Wexford.

29th May. } Late in the evening, General *Lake* arrived in Dublin from *Kilcullen*, where he had received the unconditional submission of a body of rebels, amounting to near 4000; who, after having delivered up their arms, and seven persons who were their leaders, were permitted to return to the king's peace.

This day likewise, Lieutenant Colonel *Longfield* of the Royal Cork militia having arrived near *Rathangan*, (f) and perceiving the rebels to have taken a position at the upper end of the town near the church, and that they had, in some parts, barricadoed the streets, and drawn chains across others, he placed some battalion guns in front, supported by infantry, stationing his cavalry so as to support both; and commenced, by firing upon the town with the cannon; soon after which, the enemy fled in all directions.—He then gave orders for the cavalry to charge; which was executed by Captain *Park*, and a detachment of the 5th dragoons, with the greatest spirit and judgment.—Lord *Tyrawly* joined Lieutenant-Col. *Longfield* immediately before the action, with a serjeant, and

(f) Rathangan, situated in the county of Kildare, 28 miles from Dublin.—A branch of the grand canal runs thro' this village.



and twelve of the Romney Fencibles, and some of the yeomen cavalry, who assisted with great bravery:—about 60 of the rebels were killed.

The rebellion now spread to the southern part of the kingdom; insomuch, that the communication between that district and Dublin was, for some time, interrupted; so that neither the Cork or Limerick mails could be conveyed as usual.

On Tuesday, the 29th *May*, the insurgents formed two powerful camps; one at *Vinegar-hill*, near Enniscorthy; and the other about 3 miles from *Wexford*, at a place called the *Three Rocks*, on the road between Wexford and Ross.

31st *May*. } General *Duff* ordered a strong force  
 ————— } of infantry, cavalry, and artillery to proceed to *Kilcullen*, where he put himself at their head, and marched to *Blackmore-hill*, resolving to cut his way to the capital, though the communication between it and Limerick had been stopt for six days.—The forces under his command (amounting to about 600) marched the first 70 miles in 50 hours, of which they had slept only four.—On their arrival at *Kildare*, they heard of the loss of Lieutenant *Giffard*, who had been killed; and also that 6000 of the rebels had been drawn up on the Curragh:—the troops pushed on—they did not permit the artillery to fire, but fell upon the insurgents, and slew 400 of them upon the plain.—The General then proceeded to *Blackmore-mountain*, where he stormed the rebel camp, and drove them to a still higher mountain, scarcely passable:

passable :—however, he brought his cannon to its very top, and after throwing a few shells amongst the enemy, soon put them completely to the rout.—In this camp, the pots were all filled with choice provisions boiling for breakfast ;—there were lying on the ground, several fat bullocks and sheep, that had been houghed to prevent their escape :—the tents were formed of fine large Wilton carpets, bed-hangings, window-curtains, sheets, table-clothes, &c.—they had great quantities of meat, bacon, butter, &c.—fine feather-beds, and good horses.—In fact, this camp was intended for a much greater number than had assembled ; but the activity of General *Duff* defeated their projects.

A few days before these proceedings took place, an express arrived at *Carlow*, (t) stating, that the rebels had got possession of *Ballytore*, (u) and were strengthening themselves in it.—In consequence of which, Maj. *Dennis* marched with two troops of the 9th dragoons, and some of the North Cork militia ; but before his arrival, the enemy had evacuated the place ;—he, however, cut off one of their reconnoitering parties, consisting of a few men.—And it having appeared that many of the inhabitants had assisted the rebels, the military burned the town, except a few houses belonging to some peaceable people. — The rebels

(t) *Carlow*, an assizes town in the county of same name, situated near 40 miles from Dublin.

(u) *Ballytore*, situated in the county Kildare, near 28 miles from Dublin.

rebels afterwards re-assembled in that neighbourhood, but were defeated with considerable loss.

An attack was also made on the town of *Carlow*; where near 1000 of the rebels assembled at 2 o'clock, on the 26th of May.—The inhabitants, however, had some previous intimation of the design, and were, in some measure, prepared for the event.—A force was collected to oppose them; and in a short time, near 400 of the insurgents were cut off.—A great part of the town was burnt;—and the rebels having crowded into the narrow pass of *Tullow-street*, when the garrison fell upon them, attempted to fly;—but no passage was left open;—a troop of dragoons having had possession of every avenue to the street, and a dreadful fire of musquetry being kept up, soon devoted the wretched victims to despair and death.

*June 2d.* } Accounts were received at the castle  
 — } from Maj.-gen. *Eustace* at *New-Ross*, (v) stating, that Major-general *Fawcett* having marched with a company of the Meath regiment from *Duncannon-Fort*, (w) this small force was surrounded by a very large body between *Taghmon* (x) and *Wexford*, and defeated:—General *Fawcett* effected his escape to *Duncannon-Fort*.—And by a letter received from  
 K Colonel

(v) *New-Ross*, situated in the county of *Wexford*, about 67 miles from *Dublin*.

(w) *Duncannon-Fort*, situated in the county of *Wexford*, 92 miles from *Dublin*.

(x) *Taghmon*, situated in the county of *Wexford*, above 70 miles from *Dublin*.



Colonel *L'Estrange* of the King's county militia, it appeared, that the town of *Newtown-barry* had been attacked on the 1st of June, in the morning, by a very large force from *Vinegar-hill*:—they surrounded the town in such a manner, that Colonel *L'Estrange* at first retreated, in order to collect his force:—he then attacked the rebels, and drove them out of the town with great slaughter, pursuing them several miles, until night obliged him to return:—His detachment consisted of 230 of the King's county militia, 17 dragoons, and about 100 yeomen.—The rebels were in very great force, and lost about 500 men.

A vast body of insurgents also entered the town of *Kilcock*, (y) and forced along with them every man they could lay hold of:—they also took all the horses they could find, among which were sixteen that were in the mail-coach stables; so that the coachman who brought the intelligence to Dublin, was obliged to drive one set of cattle 30 miles.—The insurgents did not keep possession of the town.

We have already stated that the rebels had formed a camp at the *Three-Rocks*:—Before we carry this narrative farther, it may be proper to mention that, on the 30th of May, information was received, that a body of the military (supposed to be the 13th regiment) had been attacked by the rebels at that place: which account induced Lieutenant-Colonel *Maxwell*, who had arrived the Day before at Wexford, with

200

(y) *Kilcock*, situated in the county of *Kildare*, 14 miles from *Dublin*.

200 of the Donegal militia, to march out his men, and four troops of yeomen cavalry, to their assistance; but before he had come up with them, they entirely cut off the party; which proved to be a slight detachment of the Meath militia of about 100 men, who were coming to Wexford with three howitzers; and with these howitzers the rebels attacked Col. *Maxwell's* party, and obliged him to retreat into Wexford. The 13th regiment, who were also coming to their relief, finding they could not proceed without attacking the rebel camp, returned back into Waterford. From these successes of the enemy in this quarter, and their increasing numbers, which was then supposed to amount to 20,000 men, (all ready to attack *Wexford*) the people were panic-struck;—and finding that many who were entrusted with arms had deserted their colours, and it being considered that others could not be depended on, the officers concluded that the town was not tenable, and without firing a shot, it was evacuated on the 30th of May, and shortly after entered by the rebels, who kept possession of it till the 21st of June following.—A farther account of the proceedings respecting this town, and the sufferings of it's inhabitants, will be given hereafter.

Perhaps we might be accused of having given a *partial* relation of public events, if no notice was taken of those professions of loyalty which were now publicly made by many of the most respectable and wealthy *Roman Catholics* in this kingdom :—We shall find them contained in the following address, which was presented to his excellency the Lord Lieutenant on the 30th of May, 1798.

May

*May it please your excellency,*

“ We, the *undersigned*, his majesty’s most dutiful  
 “ and loyal subjects, *Roman Catholics of Ireland*, think  
 “ it *necessary at this moment*, publicly to declare our  
 “ firm attachment to his majesty’s royal person, and  
 “ to the constitution under which we have the happi-  
 “ ness to live.—We feel, in common with the rest of  
 “ his majesty’s subjects, the danger to which both are  
 “ exposed, from an implacable and enterprising ene-  
 “ my, menacing invasion from abroad, and from the  
 “ machinations of evil and disaffected men, conspi-  
 “ ring treason within his majesty’s kingdom.—Under  
 “ these impressions, we deem it *necessary to remove*,  
 “ by an open and explicit declaration, every idea of  
 “ countenance afforded, *on our part*, to a conduct  
 “ bearing even the appearance of indifference or in-  
 “ discretion, much more to a conduct holding forth  
 “ *symptoms* of disaffection and hostility to the establish-  
 “ ed order of government in this kingdom; in the  
 “ preservation of which, though we differ from it in  
 “ some points of spiritual concern, *we feel too deeply*  
 “ *interested* to look, with an indifferent eye, at it’s  
 “ overthrow.

“ Allow us, then, to assure your excellency, that  
 “ we contemplate with horror, the evils of every de-  
 “ scription which the conduct of the French republic  
 “ has produced on every nation weak enough to be  
 “ deluded with it’s promises of liberty and offers of  
 “ fraternity; — we anticipate similar misfortunes as  
 “ awaiting this his majesty’s kingdom, in the depre-  
 “ cated event of successful invasion;—with confi-  
 “ dence



" dence we shall state our determination—not to be  
 " outdone by any description of our fellow-subjects  
 " in zealous endeavours for averting that calamity;  
 " and that, although anxious to enjoy, *free of every*  
 " *restriction*, the full benefit of our constitution, we  
 " reject, with indignation, any idea of removing the  
 " restrictions under which we still labor by any means  
 " of foreign invasion, or by any other step inconsis-  
 " tent with the known laws of the land:—We prefer,  
 " without hesitation, our present state to any altera-  
 " tion thus obtained;—and with gratitude to the best  
 " of kings, and to our enlightened legislature, we ac-  
 " knowledge such a share of *political liberty and advan-*  
 " *tage already in our possession*, as leaves us nothing to  
 " expect from foreign aid, nor any motive to induce  
 " us to look elsewhere than to the tried benignity of  
 " our sovereign, and the unbiaſſed determination of  
 " the legislature, as the source of future advantage,

" We cannot avoid expreſſing to your excellency,  
 " our regret at ſeeing the *general* deluſion of many  
 " (particularly the lower orders) of *our* religious per-  
 " ſuaſion, engaged in unlawful aſſociations and prac-  
 " tices; yet we truſt, that your excellency's diſcern-  
 " ment will lead you to make every juſt allowance for  
 " the facility with which men, open to deluſion from  
 " their ſituation in life, are led aſtray from political  
 " duty:—it ſhall be our endeavour to recal ſuch men  
 " to a ſenſe of that duty, how inconſiſtent their con-  
 " duct is with their real intereſts, and how contrary  
 " to the maxims of religion which they profeſs; nor  
 " ſhall we leſs endeavour, by our conduct, to convince  
 " all

“all descriptions of our fellow-subjects, how much  
 “we are impressed with the necessity of laying aside  
 “all considerations of religious distinctions, and join-  
 “ing in one common effort for the preservation of our  
 “constitution, of social order, and of the christian re-  
 “ligion, against a nation whose avowed principles  
 “aim at the destruction of them all.

“We request your excellency will make these our  
 “sentiments known to his majesty; and we rely with  
 “unfeigned confidence on your excellency’s acknow-  
 “ledged candor and generosity, that you will repre-  
 “sent us in that light to which we venture to hope  
 “our conduct and principles have given us a just  
 “claim.”

Signed by many of the Roman Catholic nobility,  
 gentry, and *titular* clergy.

It may be observed, that this address was not made  
 in the name of the *Roman Catholics in general*, but  
 merely on behalf of the persons *subscribing*; who felt  
 themselves “*too deeply interested*,” to look with indif-  
 ference at the overthrow of the state.—But, to pro-  
 ceed with the narrative,

In the beginning of *June*, the rebels became very  
 numerous about the mountains and woods in the co.  
 of Wicklow;—five different engagements took place  
 between them and the troops; in which, at least,  
 700 of the insurgents were destroyed,

5th June. } The *Wexford* rebels made their appearance in the environs of *New-Ross*; having (to the amount of 20,000) taken possession, the day before, of *Corbet-hill*, within about a mile and a half of that town.—Some skirmishes early took place between their advanced parties and detachments of the military:—About four o'clock in the morning, they were more clearly observed; and shortly after, they sent a person having the appearance of an aid-du-camp, with a summons to the commanding officer to surrender the town; which was answered, by instantly shooting the messenger:—At five o'clock, finding they received no answer, and supposing the fate their messenger met, they rushed into the town, where the military, yeomen, and several of the inhabitants were drawn up, and commenced a brisk fire of musquetry on them, which was well supported by the artillery. In the beginning of the action, the rebels were, for some time, victorious:—they drove before them all the black cattle they could collect through the country; which, for a time, threw the military into confusion, and obliged many of them to retreat in disorder over the bridge; in consequence of which, some cannon fell into the hands of the enemy.—At length, after an engagement which lasted, without intermission, from 5 o'clock in the morning till 2 in the afternoon, the insurgents were completely routed, with considerable loss.—On their first entering the town, they set fire to several thatched cabins; but this turned to their own disadvantage; for the wind blowing towards them, they were enveloped in the smoke, which, together with the immediate quantity of spirituous



rituous liquors they had drank on *Corbet-hill*, rendered them incapable of their business.—The *Dublin* and *Donegal* militia, who kept guards at the market-house and Fair-gate, never left their posts; by means of which, the rebels could not penetrate into the centre of the town;—had they ran, New-Ross, and, in all probability, the provincial towns in *Munster*, would have fallen.—The military, being fired on from some houses which had been forced by the rebels, supposing it was their owners who had assailed them, set them on fire, and they were consumed.—The insurgents had a mortar with them, from which they threw two shells across the river; but having fallen on soft ground, they luckily did no damage.—3000 of the rebels are said to have fallen in this attack—and *B. B. Harvey*, esq; who commanded them, was, for his bad generalship, on that day deposed, and the command afterwards given to one *Roach*.—At this engagement, the public have to regret the death of Lord *Mountjoy*; Colonel *Ladwell* of the 5th dragoons, was also killed; as was Quarter-master *Hay*, of the Mid-Lothian:—Captain *Sinclair* of the *Donegal* was wounded.—The total loss, on the part of the army, is said to have been 90 killed and 54 horses—59 wounded, and 9 horses,—81 missing and 4 horses.—The fate of this battle principally depended upon General *Johnson*, who had three horses shot under him, before the rebels gained the bridge, and was himself much stunned by the fall off the last; yet, in an instant, he mounted his fourth horse, and requested of his officers only four minutes time to rally his men once more, who were then in a disorder.

a disordered state; which, if he could not accomplish in that time, he promised he would return alone, and conquer or die with them:—the appearance of their general, once more, reanimated his drooping soldiers,—and, with one voice, they cried out—*they would follow him to death or glory*—There was taken from the rebels one 5½ inch howitzer, on ship-carriage—one iron four-pounder, on ship-carriage—fourteen swivels—one iron three-pounder—one iron two-pounder—a quantity of shot of different sizes—an immensity of pikes and muskets—and a variety of stands and colours.—On their retreat from New-Ross, the rebels set fire to a barn at *Scullabogue*, in which 170 protestants, men, women and children, were confined, and it was entirely consumed.—25 protestants, not included in the above number, were shot, in the most deliberate manner:—such was the savage barbarity of these desperate offenders! (U)

About this time, some matters of less importance happened in other parts of the kingdom.—A party of rebels were surprised at *Adrafs*, a mile and a half beyond Celbridge; some of them were killed, many wounded, and several of them made prisoners.—*Leixlip* was also again attacked, for the last time, and about 20 of the rebels were cut off.—A party of them also that had taken refuge in the bog of *Timoboe*, near Kilcock, were surrounded and put to flight; they abandoned their camp and provisions, and even their arms, in their haste to seek for safety.—A few days previous to this event, about 800 of them assembled in the village of *Carbery*, 5 miles from Clonard;

L

where

where they burnt the protestant charter-school, and several houses; they then proceeded thro' *Johnstown*, burning and destroying the house of every protestant on the road:—having halted at a place called *Gurteen*, they there destroyed the house of Mr. *F. Metcalf*, and committed many depredations.

June 7th. } Maj. *Siddons*, commanding in *Antrim*,  
 ————— } received information that the rebels were to burn and destroy that town:—He sent an express to Blaris camp, Belfast, and Lisburn.—At half past two o'clock, there arrived from Belfast, two troops of horse commanded by Colonel *Lumly*, with a six-pounder.—The rebels collected to the amount of some thousands.—Lord Mazerine's Corps of yeomanry assisted on the occasion.—Colonel *Lumly* ordered his troops to make a charge on the enemy; he was unfortunately wounded, and the light horse obliged to retreat and cross the river;—Major *Siddons* had 3 horses shot under him.—Col. *Durham* soon arrived with additional assistance; and, after a well directed fire on the town, the insurgents were driven out; 2 curriele guns were retaken which had fallen into their hands, and a six-pounder;—they were pursued to *Shane's-castle* and *Randalsstown*, with much slaughter. Lord *O'Neil* having been informed that the rebels were in possession of *Reynaldstown*, went to Antrim with a small party, intending to protect his house; he was attacked on the way by a party of the insurgents, and received a desperate wound from a pike, under which he languished till the 11th June, when he died in great agony.

In



In the before-mentioned action, the rebels are said to have lost 500 men.—After their defeat, the Monaghan militia arrived and plundered them.—As to the action at *Reynaldstown*, which took place about the same time, the loss of the rebels there is stated to have been above 300.—In the engagements of this day, the *Ballinderry* yeomanry suffered a great deal—The loss, on the part of the army, was 3 officers, and 20 rank and file killed and wounded:—amongst these, we have to mention Cornet *Dunn* and Quarter-mast. *Simpson* killed—Lieutenant *Murphy* wounded.

Another body of rebels attacked the town of *Larne* (z) where a subaltern's detachment of the *Tay* fencibles maintained their post in the Barrack with great gallantry.

9th June. } By accounts received at Dublin from  
 ————— } *Belfast*, it was stated, that the rebels in that quarter were dispersed in all directions, except at *Toome*, (a) whither General *Knox* and Colonel *Clavering* were proceeding; and that many of them had laid down their arms:—Also, that Mr. *McCleverty* had returned from *Donegar-hill*, to which place he had been carried prisoner by 2000 rebels:—Whilst he was in this situation, the insurgents disagreed and quarrelled among themselves; and from his influence and address amongst them, 1500 of them left their camp, surrendered their arms, and swore they would never again carry an offensive weapon against his majesty,

(z) *Larne*, situated in the county of *Antrim*, 97 miles from *Dublin*.

(a) *Toome*, situated in the barony of same name, co. *Antrim*.

jefty, or his loyal subjects;—many more of them dispersed; and their commander was left with about fifty men only.

On this day also commenced a battle at *Arklow*: (b) The rebels, in great force, attacked Major-General *Needham's* position at this place, at six o'clock in the evening:—they advanced in an irregular manner, and extended themselves, for the purpose of turning his left flank, his rear and right flank being strongly defended by the town and barrack of *Arklow*:—upon their endeavouring to enter the lower end of the town, they were charged by the 4th dragoon guards, 5th dragoons, and Antient Britons; and, at last, completely routed:—all round the other points of the position, they were defeated with great slaughter:—They also set fire to the town; but this, providentially, served only to annoy themselves.—Their numbers are said to have amounted to 20,000.—In this engagement, Capt. *Knox* of the yeomanry was killed: the rebels also lost their favorite Father *Murphy*, who had proceeded with them from *Wexford*.\*

The limits to which we are confined will not permit us to enter into a *minute* detail of the several actions which occurred; the present one, however, having been important, we shall add General *Needham's* account of it, by letter, dated *Arklow*, 10th of June, 1798, which states as follows:—"The rebels  
" approached

(b) *Arklow*, situated in the county of *Wicklow*, about 12 miles south of *Wicklow* town, and 36 from *Dublin*.

\* There were several priests of this name concerned in the rebellion.

“approached from *Coolgreney-road*, and along the  
 “*sand hills* on the shore, in two immense columns,  
 “while the whole of the intermediate space, embrac-  
 “ing my entire front, was crowded by a rabble,  
 “armed with pikes and fire-arms, and bearing down  
 “on me without any regular Order:—The position  
 “I had chosen was a very strong one, in front of  
 “the barrack:—as soon as the enemy approached  
 “within a short distance, we opened a heavy fire of  
 “grape, which did as much execution as, from the  
 “nature of the ground and the strong fences of which  
 “they possessed themselves, could have been expected:—this continued incessantly from six until half  
 “past eight o’clock; when the enemy desisted in their  
 “attack, and fled in disorder on every side.—Colonel  
 “Sir *Walt. W. Wynne* routed a strong column of them  
 “attempting to gain the town by the beach.—Colonel  
 “*Maxwell* offered his services to burn some houses in the front, near the end of the action, and effected it without loss.—Col. *Skerrett*, of the Durham  
 “fencibles, on whom the brunt of the action fell, acted in a most spirited and determined manner;—as  
 “did also Colonel *O’Hara*, who commanded the Antrim, and covered the road on my right, &c.”—  
 The General then mentions, in the strongest terms of approbation, the conduct of Colonel *Cope*, Lieut.-Col. *Blackwood*, Lieut.-Col. *Cleghorn*, Capt. *Moore*, Capt. *Needham*, Mr. *Whaley*, and the officers and men in general.—In this engagement, no officer was wounded.—Upon searching the fields and cabins in the line that was taken by the rebels in their retreat, it appears their loss could not have fallen short of about 1000 men.

On



On the same day, Colonel *Stapleton* having information of a number of people assembled at *Saintfield*, (c) he set out from *Newtownards*, (d) with a detachment of the *Tork* fencible regiment, accompanied by the *Newtownards* and *Comber* yeomen cavalry and infantry; altogether, about 320 men and 2 field-pieces.—About half past 4 o'clock in the evening, they fell upon the rebels, supposed to have been between six and seven thousand.—The light infantry, commanded by Captain *Chetwynd*, advanced to secure an eminence on the right; which having accomplished, he was attacked by a force of at least 3000 men, the front armed with pikes, the centre and rear with muskets, whose fire galled them severely, till the body of the troops and the field-pieces came up, when the rebels were defeated with the loss of above 500 men, amongst whom were many of their leaders.—The king's troops, after routing the insurgents, marched to *Comber*, (e) where they halted during the night; and next morning, proceeded to *Belfast*.—In this action, Captain *Chetwynd*, Lieutenant *Unite*, and Ensign *I. Sparks*, were killed—and Lieutenant *Eden* wounded:—The total loss, on the part of the king's troops, was 29 killed, and 2 wounded.

#### Accounts

(c) *Saintfield*, situated in the county of Down, 78 miles from Dublin.

(d) *Newtownards*, situated in the county of Down, 87 miles from Dublin.

(e) *Comber*, situated in the county of Down, 88 miles from Dublin.

Accounts were now received by Gen. *Nugent* from Col. *Clavering*, that the disaffected in the neighbourhood of *Antrim* had expressed a desire to submit, and return to their duty.—At *Ballymena*, (f) a number of pikes and muskets were delivered up to the magistrates;—many more, with a brass field-piece, were also surrender'd to major *Seddons*.—In the town of *Kildare*, however, the rebels made several attempts to dislodge his majesty's forces from that post, by repeatedly setting it on fire:—much of the town suffered; and it required the utmost exertions of the soldiery, to prevent the whole from being destroyed.

Major-gen. Sir *Charles Apgill* attacked, with about 300 men, a rebel camp at the rere, near *Ross*, which he compleatly disperfed, and killed 50 men.—Lieut.-Col. *Stewart* also having marched from *Blaris*, with a part of the *Argyle* fencibles, 30 cavalry, and some yeomanry, arrived at *Ballinabinch* as the rebels were beginning to collect:—he relieved some yeomen who were in their possession, and disperfed the rebels, who fled into Lord *Moria's* wood, whither they were pursued, about 40 of them killed, and the remainder routed.

11th June } Major-general *Nugent* marched against  
 ————— } a large body of rebels, who retired, on  
 his approach, to a strong position on the *Saintfield* side  
 of *Ballinabinch*, and there made a shew of resistance,  
 endea-

(f) *Ballymena*, situated in the county of *Antrim*, 93 miles from *Dublin*.

endeavouring to turn his left flank ;—but Col. *Stewart* arriving from Down, with a pretty considerable force of infantry, cavalry, and yeomanry, they soon desisted, and retired to a very strong position behind *Ballinahinch*.—General *Nugent* attacked them the next morning at 3 o'clock, having occupied two hills on the left and right of the town, to prevent the rebels having any other choice than the mountains in their rear, for their retreat ;—he sent Lieutenant-Colonel *Stewart* to post himself, with a part of the Argyle fencibles and some yeomanry, as well as a detachment of the 22d light dragoons, in a situation from whence he could enfilade the rebel line—whilst Colonel *Leslie*, with part of the Monaghan militia, some cavalry, and yeoman infantry, should make an attack upon their front.—The rebels impetuously attacked Colonel *Leslie's* detachment, and even jumped into the road, from the Earl of *Moir's* demesne, to endeavour to take one of his guns ; but they were repulsed with slaughter.—Lieuten.-Col. *Stewart's* detachment was attacked by them with the same activity, but he repulsed them also ; and the fire from his howitzer and six-pounder, soon obliged them to fly in all directions.—Their force was very considerable : about 400 of them was killed in the attack and retreat, and the remainder dispersed all over the country :—their principal leader, one *Munro*, was afterwards taken. Parts of the towns of *Ballinahinch* and *Saintfield* were burnt.—In this engagement, Captain *Evatt*, of the Monaghan militia, was killed ; and Lieutenant *Ellis*, of the same regiment, wounded.—The loss of rank and



and file, was 5 killed and 14 wounded.—Major-gen. *Nugent* acknowledged the services received from Lt.-Col. *Peacock*, and Major of brigade, *Macbinnor*.

On the 11th of June, the *Portaferry* (g) yeomanry, under the command of Captain *Matthews*, made a most gallant defence against a large body of rebels who attacked the town of Portaferry:—The yeomen having taken possession of the market-house, from which post they repulsed the rebels, who left behind them above 40 dead, and many more were carried off.—Captain *Hopkins*, of a revenue cruiser, brought his guns to bear upon the town, and was of great service in defending it.

12th June. } Major-Gen. Sir *Charles Asgill* having  
 ————— } heard that a large body of the rebels had  
 marched from the co. of Wexford against *Borris*, (h)  
 and were burning the town; he proceeded to its relief with 400 men, but the rebels had fled before he could arrive:—They had attacked the house of a Mr. *Kavanagh*, in which were 29 men of the Donegal militia, who, notwithstanding the incessant fire kept on them for some hours, defended themselves in the most gallant manner, and killed several of the insurgents.—Nothing could surpass the determined bravery of these few men.—The rebels effected their escape into the county of Wexford.

M

13th

(g) Portaferry, situated in the county of Down, 78 miles from Dublin.

(h) Borris, situated in the county of Carlow.

13th June. } A letter received by Lieut.-gen. *Lake*  
 ————— } from Major-gen. *Johnston* at *New-Ross* of  
 this date, stated, that having received information  
 that the rebels had fitted out several boats and other  
 craft, for the purpose of effecting their escape, he sent  
 Lieutenant *Hill*, with such armed vessels as could be  
 spared from *Fethard*, (i) where they were collected,  
 with orders to destroy the whole; which Lieutenant  
*Hill* effected with his usual spirit, and without loss:—  
 thirteen large sailing hookers, and a great many small  
 boats, were burnt.

A letter also received from Major-gen. Sir *Charles*  
*Asgill* stated, that Capt. *Heatly*, of the Wicklow mili-  
 tia, had fallen in with a party of the rebels near *Roar*,  
 on returning from *Ross* to *Gowran*, (k) and killed forty  
 of them.—The parish of *Roar*, and the adjoining  
 parishes, offered to surrender their arms.

16th June. } Advices were received from Major-  
 ————— } General *Nugent*, by which it appeared,  
 that the rebels who had been defeated at *Ballinabinch*  
 petitioned for pardon, and offered to surrender up  
 all their arms and ammunition:—The Major-general,  
 in reply, promised to accept their submission, on the  
 condition of their giving up their leader, *Munro*, and  
 the other principal traitors who had instigated them  
 to their late wicked practices:—They were to have surren-

(i) *Fethard*, situated in the county of Tipperary, 78 miles  
 S. W. of Dublin.

(k) *Gowran*, situated in the county Kilkenny, 52 miles from  
 Dublin.

surrendered on the 15th, by 12 o'clock;—however, *Munro* was taken, by General *Nugent*, early on that morning.—The General stated his acknowledgments for the services of Major-gen. *Barber*; and mentioned, with great satisfaction, the conduct of Mr. *Boyd* of *Ballycastle*.—The General went, on the Friday before, to *Colerain*; (1) where he collected the *Dunsevensh* and *Giant's-Causeway* corps, with which, together with his own, he returned to *Ballycastle*, and beat the rebels out of that place; and then proceeded to punish them between that town and *Glenarm*. (m) The rebel commander *Munro* was tried by a court-martial, and executed:—On the trial, the following proclamation was produced and proved, viz.—

“ *General Munro's proclamation to his army, and the inhabitants of the county Down.*

“ *Not to pay any rent to the disaffected landlords, as such rent is confiscated to the use of the national liberty war.*

“ *Head-Quarters, Ballinahinch, 12th June, 1798.*

The following curious letter from *Munro*, directed to *Citizen Townshend* of *Ballinahinch*, was also produced and proved.—

“ *Worthy Citizen,*

“ *We have some small reinforcements; say 300 men;*

“ *I hear yours is much more:—I hope the defenders*

“ *have*

(1). *Colerain*, situated in the county of Londonderry, 114 miles from Dublin.

(m). *Glenarm*, situated in the county Antrim, 105 miles from Dublin.



"have rallied to you;—send me express.——I send  
 "you some ball-cartridges.—You must press for pro-  
 "visions as we do:—I will send you some more to-  
 "day, and any thing that can be got here.

"MUNRO.

"Tuesday morning,—

"The citizens are in choice spirits, longing for  
 "action.

"*Health and Respect.*"

17th June. } At 11 o'clock at night, a recruit of  
 ————— } Capt. Clark's gave information that the  
 town of Kilbeggan (n) would be attacked on the next  
 day.—As many similar alarms had been circulated  
 before, this was not much regarded:—however, the  
 videts of horse were ordered to keep a careful look  
 out, and give instant intelligence, should any num-  
 ber of men be descried by them.—At break of day,  
 some persons were perceived on the top of a hill west-  
 ward of the town;—Immediate notice was given to  
 the commanding officer, who directed that the horse  
 guard should continue to observe the motions of the  
 enemy; and should their numbers increase, to retreat  
 slowly about two hundred yards in front to the town  
 and apprise him of the same.

It soon appeared that their force was between 3  
 and 4000, divided into bands, from 60 to an hun-  
 dred, in regular order, with different kinds of arms,  
 principally pikes, from five to ten feet long; pitch-  
 forks,

1 (n) Kilbeggan, situated in the county of Westmeath, 44 miles  
 from Dublin.

forks, &c.—Each band moved separately, headed by an officer distinguished by a green sash or cockade:—most of the men had white paper bands round their hats.—It was remarked that many of them were intoxicated.—There were then under arms, 60 of the Northumberland fencibles, about 30 of the Fertullagh cavalry, and 30 loyal protestants, who either belonged to the town, or had fled there for refuge.—On the first appearance of the rebels, an express was sent to *Tullamore*, (o) where the principal part of the 7th dragoons lay:—General *Dunn* forwarded a troop of about 80 men.—The rebels, at first, began an attack on the hills, and obliged the fencibles to retreat to the town:—mean time, the loyalists cleared the streets, which had been full of rebels, without the loss of a man; the cavalry pursued, and these, aided by a dismounted party, who, on hearing the firing, had hastened here from *Tyrrell's-pass*, (p) defeated the enemy, and killed about 400 of them.

These circumstances having taken place, advices were afterwards received from Waterford, that General *Johnston* had marched from *Ross* to attack the rebels at *Larkin-hill*, within two miles of that place, where they had been encamped for some time.—On the approach of the military, they fled in all directions; leaving their camp, a large quantity of provisions, &c. behind them:—The army continued it's route;

(o) *Tullamore*, situated in the King's county, 46 miles from Dublin.

(p) *Tyrrell's-pass*, situated in the county of Westmeath, 40 miles from Dublin.

route; and the following letter was found in the rebel camp, directed to *citizen Roach*, commanding the camp at Larkin-hill, before Ross.

June 16th, 1798.

" *Dear citizen,*

" We shall at all times be anxious to comply with  
 " your wishes:—We have before us a message from  
 " citizen *Hughes*, expressing your wish to have all the  
 " men in *Forth* and *Bargy* in your camp.—Taking that  
 " demand in the full extent, we cannot comply with  
 " it; there are many reasons against it:—for instance,  
 " the protection of the coast, provisions, &c. &c.—  
 " We have, however, now issued orders, desiring all  
 " *unmarried* men to repair to camp immediately.—  
 " We did so before, but they were not fully obeyed;  
 " at the present time, particular obedience will be  
 " enforced; and we trust you will shortly find at your  
 " camp a number of fresh young fellows, as well ap-  
 " pointed and provided as our best efforts can accom-  
 " plish; and we trust, you will find in them the means  
 " of gratifying your wishes on the subject:—We wish  
 " you every success in our glorious cause.

" *Health and fraternity.*

" Council chamber,

*By order of the council.*

" Wexford.

*NICH. GRAY. Sec.*

" P. S. The appearance of the armed vessels off  
 " our coast, will enforce the necessity of keeping the  
 " married men at home, until a fresh occasion calls  
 " upon them."



19th June } Sir *Hugh O'Reilly*, Lieutenant-colonel  
 of the Westmeath militia, with part of his regiment, were attacked on their march from *Cloghnakilty* to *Bandon*, (q) near a village called *Ballynascarty*, by a party of the rebels, who had taken up the best position on the whole march.—The attack was made with great rapidity, and without the least previous notice.—The rebels were repulsed, with considerable loss.—A detachment of the Caithness legion, under the command of Major *Innes*, was then on it's march to *Cloghnakilty*; and hearing the firing, very critically came up to the assistance of Sir *Hugh O'Reilly*.

20th June. } Lieutenant *Pearce*, of the city of Cork  
 militia, sent a serjeant and four men to escort a prisoner from *Hazelhatch* (r) to *Sallans*: (s) At *Ponsonby-bridge*, they fell in with a number of rebels:—The serjeant immediately retired, and sent off an orderly with the account:—The Lieutenant immediately dispatched a serjeant and eight men to his assistance; and being joined on the spot by three of the yeomanry, an engagement took place, in which 25 of the rebels were killed, and the remainder completely routed.

Same

(q) *Bandon*, situated in the county of Cork, 137 miles from Dublin.

(r) *Hazelhatch*, a village situated in the county of Dublin, 8 miles from the metropolis.

(s) *Sallans*, situated in the county of Kildare, 14 miles from Dublin.

Same day, Major-gen. Sir *Charles Asgill* marched from *Borris*, to attack a parcel of the rebels who had collected at *Blackstaine's-mountain*;—the General's force was divided into two divisions, that took different routs:—they found the rebels scattered through the country in great numbers:—Lord *Loftus*, of the Wexford militia, commanded one party,—and the Hon. Colonel *Howard*, of the Wicklow, the other, under the direction of Sir *Charles*:—Upwards of 100 of the insurgents were killed, the rest dispersed, and several guns and pikes taken.

We come now to mention something of the affairs at *Wexford*; previous to which, it may be proper to notice the following curious proclamation, which was issued there the beginning of June, 1798, viz.

*“ Proclamation of the people of the county of Wexford. ”*

“ WHEREAS, it stands manifestly notorious, that  
 “ *James Boyd, Hawtry White, Hunter Gowan, and Archibald Hamilton Jacob*, late magistrates of the county, have committed the most horrid acts of cruelty,  
 “ violence and oppression, against our peaceable and  
 “ well affected countrymen:—Now WE, THE PEOPLE, associated and united for the purpose of procuring our just rights, and being determined to protect the persons and properties of those of all religious persuasions who have not oppressed us, and  
 “ are willing, with heart and hand, to join our glorious cause, as well as to shew our marked disapprobation and horror of the crimes of the above delinquents, do call on our countrymen at large, to use  
 “ every

“every exertion in their power to apprehend the bodies of the aforesaid *James Boyd*, &c. &c. and to secure and convey them to the goal of Wexford, to be brought before the TRIBUNAL OF THE PEOPLE.

“Done at Wexford, this 9th day of June, 1798.

“*God save the PEOPLE.*”

It has been already mentioned, that a considerable rebel force had been encamped on *Vinegar-hill*.—This hill is very steep, rising in the form of a cone; at the butt of it, are two other hills, with quick-fets and other ditches across them; a river runs at the bottom of both; and adjacent, is a small wood.—At the bottom of *Vinegar-hill* lies the town of *Enniscorthy*;—and on the top of the great hill, are the remains of an old wind-mill, on which the rebels had placed their *green flag* of defiance.

21st June. } About 7 o'clock this morning, Lieutenant-gen. *Lake* attacked the rebels at *Vinegar-hill*; and in an hour and a half, they were dispersed.—A column under Major-gen. *Johnston* and *Eustace* was drawn from Ross, and they began the attack upon the town of *Enniscorthy*:—Lieut.-Gen. *Dundas* commanded the center column;—another on the left, was commanded by Major-gen. *Needham*.—The rebels, for some time, maintained their ground obstinately; but perceiving the danger of being surrounded, they fled with great precipitation.—At this engagement, Lieutenant *Sandys*, of the Longford regiment, was killed.—Col. *King*, of the Sligo; Lord

N

*Blaney*



*Blaney* and Colonel *Vesey*, of the county of Dublin regiment; and Lieutenant-col. *Cole*, was wounded.—There was a dreadful slaughter of the rebels; from whom were taken 3 brass six-pounders, 1 three-pounder, 7 one-pounders, 3 howitzers, of different dimensions, and a great quantity of ammunition.—In the official accounts, General *Lake* acknowledged the services he received from Colonel *Campbell*, Major-gen. *Hewitt* and *Cradeck*, Lord *Glentworth*, Lieutenant-colonel *Blythe*, Lieutenant-col. *Meade*, Earl of *Ancram*, Lord *Roden*, Captain *Bloomfield*, of the British, and Captain *Crawford*, of the royal Irish artillery, and Captain *Nicholson*, the General's aid-de-camp, &c.

The insurgents, at this time, committed the most horrid atrocities in the town and county of Wexford. Many protestants were tortured and put to the most cruel deaths, particularly in the town; of which, it was before observed, the rebels had entire possession. The particulars relative to these proceedings, will be noticed in a subsequent part of our history:—the audacity, however, of the rebel party, appears from the following proposal made, on their part, to Lieutenant-gen. *Lake*, as follows:—

“ That Capt. *M'Manus* shall proceed from *Wexford* towards *Oulart*, accompanied by Mr. *E. Hay*,  
 “ appointed by the inhabitants of all religious persuasions, to inform the officer commanding the king's  
 “ troops, that they are ready to deliver up the town  
 “ of Wexford without opposition, lay down their  
 “ arms, and return to their allegiance, *provided* that  
 “ their persons and properties are guaranteed by the  
 “ the

“the commanding officer;—and that they will use  
 “every influence in their power to induce the people  
 “of the country at large to return to their allegiance  
 “also.—These terms, we hope, *Capt. M’Manus* will  
 “be able to procure.—Signed, by order of the inhabitants of Wexford,

MATT. KEUGHE.”

To these proposals General *Lake* returned the following answer.

—“Lieut.-gen. *Lake* cannot attend to any terms,  
 “offered by rebels in arms against their Sovereign;  
 “whilst they continue so, he must use the force entrusted to him with the utmost energy for their destruction.—To the deluded multitude, he promises pardon, on their delivering into his hands their leaders, surrendering their arms, and returning with sincerity to their allegiance.”

*Enniscorthy, 22d, June, 1798.*

The above-mentioned Mr. *Keughe*, a Mr. *Roache*, with other principal persons concerned in this insurrection, soon afterwards fell into the hands of General *Lake*; who in a few days obtained possession of Wexford, to the inexpressible joy of the unfortunate protestants, who had been in momentary expectation of death.—This fortunate event may be attributed to the success of Brigadier-general *Moore*, who in a letter to Major-gen. *Johnston*, dated 22d of June, from the camp above Wexford,—mentions;—That on the evening of the 18th, he had taken post, near

*Fooke’s*.

*Fookes'-mill*, in the park of Mr. *Sutton*. He next day sent a strong detachment, under Lieut.-col. *Wilkinson* to patrol towards *Tintern* and *Clonmines*, with a view to scour the country, and communicate with the troops directed to join him from *Duncannon*.—The Lieut.-col. found the country deserted, and got no tidings of the troops. Gen. *Moore* waited for them some time, and despaired of their arrival, began his march to *Taghmon*.—Having marched about half a mile, he perceived a considerable body of rebels advancing towards him.—He sent his van guard to skirmish with them, whilst a howitzar and a six-pounder were directed to a cross-road above *Goffs-bridge*, and some companies of light infantry formed on each side of them, under Lieut.-col. *Wilkinson*.—The rebels attempted to attack these, but were instantly repulsed, and driven beyond the bridge.—“A large body (says General *Moore*) were perceived  
“at the same time moving towards my left.—Major  
“*Aylmer*, and afterwards Major *Daniel*, with five  
“companies of light infantry, and a six-pounder  
“were detached against them.—The 60th regiment  
“finding no further opposition in front, had of them-  
“selves inclined to the left, to engage the body which  
“was attempting to turn us: The action here was  
“for a short time pretty sharp. The rebels were in  
“great numbers, armed with both muskets and pikes.  
“They were, however, forced to give way and driven,  
“ven, (tho’ they repeatedly attempted to form,) be-  
“hind the ditch.—They at last dispersed, flying to-  
“wards *Enniscorthy* and *Wexford*.—Major *Daniel*  
“received a wound in the knee; the business, which  
“began between three and four, was not over ’till  
“eight;



“ eight ; it was then too late to proceed to *Taghmon* ;  
 “ I therefore took post for the night on the ground  
 “ where the action commenced. As the rebels gave  
 “ way, I was informed of the approach of the 2nd  
 “ and 29th regiments, under Lord *Dalhousie*.——  
 “ In the morning of the 21st, we were proceeding  
 “ to *Taghmon* ; on my arrival, the rebels fled over  
 “ the bridge of Wexford, towards the Barony of  
 “ *Forth*,” &c.—— In this defeat, the force of the  
 rebels appears to have been between three and four  
 thousand,

22d June. } Sir *Charles Agill* received information  
 —— } early this morning, that the rebels, a-  
 mounting to several thousands, had escaped from the  
 county of Wexford, and formed at *Kellymount*, (t)  
 and were proceeding to *Gore's-bridge*.—He instantly  
 assembled all the force he could collect, and marched  
 towards them :—However, he did not arrive in time  
 to prevent their defeating the detachment which was  
 at that place, and taking 24 men of the Wexford mi-  
 litia prisoners ;—they marched off rapidly towards  
*Leighlin*, and took their position at *Sbanobill*, intend-  
 ing to form a junction with the colliers at *Casletomer*.  
 As soon as the troops were prepared to move, Sir  
*Charles* marched to attack them :—they had, howe-  
 ver, before his arrival, burned the town, and forced  
 the soldiers who were in it to retire :—On his arrival,  
 he attacked the rebels on all sides, and dispersed them  
 with great slaughter, about 400 of them being killed :  
 They

(t) *Kellymount*, situated in the county of *Kilkenny*.

They were commanded by one *Father Murphy*.—The force against them consisted of the *Wexford* and *Wicklow* militia, under the command of *Lord Loftus* and the hon. *Colonel Howard*:—the cavalry were commanded by *Major Donaldson* of the 7th dragoons, and *Major Bernard* of the *Romney* fencibles; with several yeomanry corps from *Kilkenny & Carlow*.

25th June } Early this morning, a body of rebels,  
 ————— } consisting of several thousands, marched from the mountains of *Wicklow* to attack *Hacketstown*: on seeing them approach, *Lieut. Gardiner*, of the *Antrim* militia, with the troops under his command, took post on the most advantageous ground near the town, in order to prevent the rebels from gaining possession of it:—but, after a short attack, they filed off in different directions, with an intent to surround him, and cut him off.—*Lieutenant Gardiner* then retreated with the infantry, to line the walls and windows of the barrack.—A contest ensued, in the midst of flames (the rebels having set fire to the town) for nine hours; when they were obliged to retreat.—30 car-loads of their killed and wounded were carried off by them in their retreat; and many of their dead were found in the streets and ditches.—*Captain Hardy*, of the *Hacketstown* infantry, fell early in the action.—Considering the severity of this engagement, the loss, on the part of the army, was comparatively small.

26th June. } *Sir Charles Asgill*, who commanded at  
 ————— } *Kilkenny*, fearing the consequences that might result from allowing the rebels to remain any length

length of time in that neighbourhood, (whither they had fled from *Wexford*) resolved to attack them, without waiting for any reinforcement.——He had then about 1100 men; the rebels amounted to near 5000. He engaged with them at six o'clock in the morning, at *Kilconnel-hill*, near *Gore's-bridge*, and soon defeated them.——Ten pieces of cannon, two swivels, and a quantity of arms, ammunition, cattle, &c. were taken. In this engagement, Lieutenant *Stones*, of the Mount-Leinster yeomanry, was unfortunately killed.

The considerable loss which the rebels had hitherto suffered, was thought sufficient now to convince them of their disability to succeed in their designs;—and government therefore humanely offered them an opportunity of preventing further destruction.——A proclamation was issued, enabling the respective generals commanding in the different districts, to offer pardon and amnesty to such of the deluded insurgents as should come in to an appointed place in each county, and surrender and give up their arms, in fourteen days from the date thereof;—and certificates of protection to be granted to all who should take the oath of allegiance, abjure their former treasonable obligations, and give security for future good behaviour.

29th June. } Lieut. *Tyrrell*, of the Clonard corps,  
 ——— } having received information that a body of the rebels had stationed themselves upon a hill near his dwelling-house at *Kilreiny*, assembled a force, and proceeded to *Fox's-hill*, where they were posted, to the number of 600:—An attack was commenced; and they were routed with considerable slaughter.

3d July



3d July. } Above 2000 of the rebels attacked the town of *Carnew*, upon the confines of the counties of Wexford and Wicklow.—A small party of the Antient Britons, who were coming to the aid of the yeomanry at *Carnew*, suffered much on the occasion.—The rebels having artfully prevented the communication by barriers of baggage and carriages; which, while the Antient Britons were endeavouring to force, the rebels, in a great body, fell upon their rear, and put them to death, after a very gallant resistance.—The yeomanry, however, repulsed them; but could not prevent that town from being destroyed.—The rebels afterwards concentrated their troops near the hill of *Ballymanus*, in the county of Wicklow.

4th July. } Major-gen. *Needham* and Sir *J. Duff* proceeded to surprise a large body of rebels that were posted at the *White-heaps*.—The rebels having moved from their post, were met by Sir *J. Duff's* column at the *Wicklow-gap*; and, after a few cannon shot, they retreated:—Sir *James* pursued:—General *Needham's* column was at too great a distance for his infantry to assist; but his cavalry joined in the pursuit, which continued for 12 miles; when they were stopped on some rising grounds:—here the regiments under Sir *James* coming up with their carriage guns, the rebels were put completely to flight, with very considerable slaughter.

11th July. } Lieutenant *Tyrrrell*, of *Kilreiny*, who has been already mentioned, received information

formation at that place from Mr. *Rich. Allen*, that a considerable rebel force was then approaching:—upon which every possible preparation was made to oppose them.—As the enemy was expected from the Dublin side, six men of the Clonard corps took possession of an old turret at the extremity of Mr. *Tyrrell's* garden, and which commanded the road. Such was the rapidity with which the rebels advanced, that the firing actually commenced from this quarter upon their cavalry, before the entire guard could be collected; and the gate leading into the court-yard was obliged to be closed; whereby several, who could otherwise have assisted, were necessarily excluded; and when Mr. *Tyrrell* came to ascertain his force, he found he had only *twenty-seven* men, including three of his sons, the eldest of whom was only seventeen years old.—After sending a supply of ammunition to the advanced post at the turret, and stationing other outposts, he retired into the house with the main body; and placing them at particular windows, gave directions that they should not fire without having their object covered:—He had the rest of the men secured behind the walls, and incessantly employed in loading muskets and carabines for the marksmen at the windows.—About 300 rebel cavalry, led on by one *Farrell*, formed their advanced guard, and approached the turret in a small trot, without appearing to apprehend any danger.—The first shot was fired by young Mr. *Tyrrell*, which mortally wounded *Farrell*; and being followed by a general discharge from the rest among the body of the cavalry, threw them into great confusion, in which

O

state

state they fled out of the reach of the firing :—The infantry coming up, contrived to pass the turret under cover of the wall; and numbers were posted behind a thick hedge on the opposite side of the road, from which they kept up a smart fire against the turret, but without doing any material mischief.—The intention of the enemy was now to surround the house; and they stationed a guard upon the bridge, many of whom were shot by the marksmen from the windows, upon which the rest fled :—this was of great importance to the little garrison in Clonard, as the communication with the western road was, in great measure, preserved.—The enemy now contrived to penetrate into the garden; and some of them rushed immediately into the turret :—the yeomen stationed there were upon an upper floor; they had the precaution to drag up the ladder by which they ascended :—the rebels endeavouring to climb up, were shot as soon as they appeared; twenty-seven of them lay dead on the ground-floor.—Finding their efforts ineffectual, they collected a quantity of straw, and soon set fire to the turret.—Two of the yeomen, endeavouring to escape the flames, viz. Mr. *Cusack* and Mr. *George Tyrrell*, were immediately killed; the rest of the party escaped, by leaping from a window twenty feet high, into a hay-yard; from whence, under cover of a wall that divided it from the garden, they got into the house.—The rebels now set fire to the toll-house, and some other cabins near the bridge :—the battle had lasted near six hours; when, at length, some assistance was discovered advancing towards the house; for one of the guard who had been excluded by the  
shutting



shutting of the gates, repaired to Kinnegad; and representing the situation of his friends at Clonard, a party of the Kinnegad infantry, under Lieut. *Houghton*, with a few of the Northumberland fencibles, marched to their relief:—On their arrival, Mr. *Tyrell* sallied from the house; and having effected a junction with this reinforcement, the town, after a smart engagement, was entirely cleared of the rebels, who fell in great numbers:—unfortunately, the brave Mr. *Rich. Allen*, who had so gallantly defended the turret, was mortally wounded.

13th July. } A party of the *Nethercross* cavalry fell  
 ————— } in with a body of the rebels at *Robertstown*; and after bravely cutting their way through them, and killing several, brought the intelligence to government.—They soon afterwards went again in search of the rebels, who had then fled from *Robertstown*, and were met by them near *Chapelmidway*; where they took several prisoners;—and afterwards surpris'd a party of them at *St. Margaret's*, whom they pursued with spirit, killed several, and took a quantity of arms and ammunition.

The rebels who had been defeated at *Clonard* moved towards *Longwood*, and were pursued by a detachment under brig.-gen. *Meyrick* almost to *Culmullin*.—Several of them were killed, and others taken prisoners. However, the main body reached *Dunboyne*, and proceeded to the hill at *Garretstown*; in consequence of which, Major-gen. *Myers* went with a party in pursuit of them; but they passed in the night over the river *Boyne*:—They were pursued by two divisions  
 under

under Major-gen. *Wemys* and Major-gener. *Meyrick*; and their cavalry having come up with them, the rebels formed a strong position in the road to Ardee.—On the arrival of the Sutherland regiment with the battalion guns, the rebels fell into confusion, and broke in all directions:—the principal party of them fled into the bog; where being followed, many of them were destroyed, and a number of pikes, fire-arms, &c. were taken.—The rebels, in their retreat over the Boyne towards Garretstown, were also attacked by a detachment under Captain *Gordon*; who took from them 200 horses, and killed about 150 insurgents.

It was now reported, that the mountains of *Wicklow* afforded a retreat to a large body of the rebel fugitives; and Lieut.-gen. *Lake* was sent, with different columns in various directions, to clear that part of the country.—On his return, he brought the pleasing intelligence that he could not find any party of them whatever assembled in that district.—The Lieut.-gen. gave the highest credit to the perseverance and spirit of the troops, during very long and difficult marches, through a country almost inaccessible to an army.—The fact was, the rebels had previously passed over to the *Bog of Allen*.

17th July. } Lord *Castlereagh* read to the house of  
 commons a message from his excellency  
 the lord lieutenant, importing his majesty's orders to  
 acquaint the house, that, wishing to exercise his royal  
 prerogative of mercy, he held forth a free pardon  
 and oblivion to all past offences, with such exceptions  
 and

and conditions as should be deemed absolutely necessary to the public safety, and had affixed his royal signature to a bill for that purpose:—the message further recommended to the house, to make the sufferings of his majesty's loyal subjects a part of it's deliberations, and to adopt measures for ascertaining and indemnifying their losses, &c.

Some days after, an express arrived in Dublin with the intelligence that a large body of insurgents had assembled at *Nine-mile-house*.—General Sir *Charles Asgill* instantly proceeded with a force under his command to that place:—but General *Myers* having also received similar accounts on the road, he put himself at the head of a body of yeomanry and militia, and arrived there before Sir *Charles*:—the rebels did not wait his approach, but fled in all directions.—General *Myers* then proceeded to *Clonmel*.—A number of the rebels afterwards assembled to attack *Cattlan*; but they were also routed, with considerable loss.

The amnesty bill, which has been already noticed, having given the disaffected party an opportunity of saving themselves from punishment by a compliance with it's provisions, and the designs of it's leaders being hitherto defeated, the principal persons concerned in this rebellion now thought it adviseable to make the best capitulation they could with government; and accordingly they proposed to his excellency the lord lieutenant—to give every information in their power of the whole of the internal transactions of the United Irishmen; and that each of them would



would give detailed information of every transaction that had passed between the United Irishmen and foreign states; without, however, naming or describing, so as to implicate any person whatever;—and that they were ready to emigrate to such country as should be agreed upon between them and government, giving security not to return to this kingdom without permission; and not to pass into an enemy's country; if, on their so doing, they should be freed from prosecution; and that *Mr. Oliver Bond* \* was to be permitted to take the benefit of the said proposal."—The state prisoners also hoped that the benefit of such proposal would be extended to such persons in custody as might choose to claim it.—This proposal was signed by *Arthur O'Connor*, *Thomas Addis Emmet*, *William McNevin*, *Samuel Neilson*, *Henry Jackson*, *John Sweetman*, and upwards of seventy other prisoners.—In consequence of this proposal, several of the subscribers thereto were afterwards examined before the house of commons; and the facts disclosed by them are fully stated in the report of the secret committee of that house in 1798.

The different engagements already stated between the king's forces and the rebels, are the most material that occur'd during the rebellion, 'till the arrival of a body of French troops, which is hereafter mentioned.—Some trifling contests took place between small parties on both sides, that, being of less importance,

\* *Mr Bond* was at this time confined and under sentence of death:—his execution was, in consequence of this application, deferred; but he died suddenly in prison a short time after.

tance, have not been particularly noticed.—On the 24th of August, the following letter was received by the *Lord Mayor* of Dublin from *Lord Castlereagh*, as secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.

“I have the honour to acquaint your lordship, by command of my Lord Lieutenant, that intelligence is just received, that, on the evening of the 22d Inst. a small French squadron consisting, as it is stated, of four ships, has appeared in the bay of *Killala*, (u) and landed part of their men; the amount of this force is not yet ascertained.—I am, at the same time, to acquaint your lordship, that a squadron of his majesty’s ships, consisting of a line of battle ship and five frigates, are cruising off the N. W. coast; and there is good reason to hope, they will fall in with the enemy.”

26th August. } Dispatches were received from the  
 ————— } hon. Major-gen. *Hutchinson* at *Castlebar*, which stated, that the French troops had disembarked at *Killala*, but had not then attempted to march into the country:—that they had not yet been joined by any number of the inhabitants; and that the Major-general was proceeding to act against the enemy with the king’s troops, who were receiving every assistance from the people of the country.

His excellency the Marq. *Cornwallis* thought proper, however, to act against the enemy in person;  
 and,

(u) *Killala*, situated in the county of Mayo, 127 miles N.W. of Dublin.

and, on the following day, he embarked at the grand canal harbour for *Tullamore*, at the head of 1000 men, drafted from the regiments then in the garrison of Dublin.—The number of the enemy who had landed, consisted of above 1000 rank and file, with a very considerable proportion of officers, and three pieces of cannon.—We shall now proceed to state, from the best authority and most accurate information we could collect, the several events which took place on this occasion.

A small party of the Leicester fencible infantry, under Lieutenant *Hills* of that regiment, and the yeomanry of the town of *Killala*, attempted to oppose the progress of the enemy to the town, but were surrounded and taken prisoners, having 3 men killed.—The bishop of *Killala*, *Dean Thompson*, and some other clergymen, were also made prisoners by the French; who, upon entering the town, distributed a number of inflammatory hand-bills to the populace, declaring themselves friends to the people, and their deliverers from oppression.—On the morning of the 24th of August, the French marched from *Killala* towards *Ballina*; but meeting with greater opposition than they probably expected, they retreated to *Killala*.—In the evening, Major *Keir* having been reinforced by several corps of yeomanry, advanced to within one mile and a half of *Killala*; but was obliged to fall back, after an unsuccessful skirmish, in which the Reverend Mr. *Fortescue*, rector of *Ballina*, and two men of the Carbiniers, were wounded, the former mortally.—In the retreat, Maj. *Keir* met Colonel Sir *Thomas*



*mas Chapman*, who was advancing with three troops of the carbiniers, and some infantry.—Sir *Thos. Chapman* having collected the troops, took post on an eminence near *Moyne-Abbey*, whence he retreated, unmolested, at 12 o'clock at night, through *Ballina* to *Foxford*.—Brigadier-gen. *Taylor* had, on this day, marched from *Sligo*, with a detachment of the Leicester fencibles and some yeomanry, towards *Ballina*; but finding that place had been occupied by the French upon the retreat of the king's troops, he returned to *Sligo*.—Lieutenant gen. *Lake* was appointed to proceed to *Galway*, and take the command of the troops assembling in Connaught; Lord *Cornwallis* meaning, in person, to collect the troops that could be marched from Leinster at *Athlone* or *Carrick-on-Shannon*, as circumstances should point out.—Major-general *Nugent* was directed to assemble a corps on the frontier of his district (the Northern) towards *Sligo*.—Other necessary dispositions took place.

On the 25th of August, Major-gen. *Hutchinson* arrived at *Castlebar*:—he found the country through which he had passed in a state of tranquillity; but a report prevailed, that the French who remained at *Killala* and *Ballina* had been joined by 1800 men; which induced the General to write to Lord *Cornwallis* for further assistance, before he would attempt to attack them.

Lord *Cornwallis* proceeded to *Phillipstown* with his forces; who, in the space of two days, had made a progress of about 60 English miles.—In the mean  
P time

time, reports were received from Major-gen. *Dundas*, who commanded in the county of Kildare, that a general insurrection was intended in that county; in consequence, he had been under the necessity of detaining part of the reinforcements ordered to Connaught.

27th Aug. } The French troops, about 7 o'clock  
this morning, commenced an attack on Major-gen. *Hutchinson's* corps at *Castlebar*; who had, the night before, been joined by Ge. *Lake*.—The enemy advanced in regular order upon the king's troops, having been joined by about 1500 rebels.—The artillery, under Captain *Shortall*, was admirably served, and made a visible impression; inasmuch, that the enemy's advance was actually checked, and they began to disperse:—At this critical moment, our troops, as if seized with a sudden panic, and without any apparent reason, gave way; and notwithstanding every effort of the Generals and all their officers, they could not be rallied; but retired, in confusion, thro' *Castlebar* towards *Hollymount*.—Lord *Roden's* fencible dragoons, on this occasion, shewed great gallantry:—they protected the retreat of the infantry; and even recovered a six-pounder which the French had pushed forward through *Castlebar*.—The skeleton of the 6th regiment, under Major *Macbean*, also behaved with great spirit in the action:—the enemy, however, suffered severely.—The total loss, on the part of the army, appears to have been,—1 serjeant, 52 rank and file, killed;—2 Lieutenants, 3 serjeants, 29 rank and file wounded;—a few officers, and 251 rank and file, missing.

missing.—Of the soldiers of the *Longford* and *Kilkenny* militia that were returned missing, it seems the greater part had deserted to the enemy.—There was also taken by the enemy, some field-pieces and a quantity of ammunition.

Immediately after receiving an account of this unfortunate business, Lord Cornwallis proceeded to *Athlone* (a) where he was informed, that General Lake had retired to *Tuam* (b), that he had been followed by the French, that his troops had been driven out of the town, and that the enemy had taken possession of it.—All this, however, proved afterwards to be perfectly unfounded.——His Excellency determined to halt at Athlone, until he should be joined by the Sutherland and Reay fencibles from Longford, and the Queen's and 29th regiments from Kilkenny,—Every precaution was taken to secure the town of Athlone against an attack; and picquets and patrols were far advanced on the roads to *Ballinasloe* and *Tuam*;—letters were received from General Lake, stating the necessity of his retreat to Tuam; that he had been joined near *Hollymount* by the Louth militia.—That a flag of truce had arrived at Tuam, with 12 of the officers taken prisoners at *Castlebar*, from whom he learn'd, that numbers of the inhabitants had joined the French, as well as many

(a) *Athlone*, situated nearly in the centre of the kingdom.—It is divided by the river Shannon, which separates here the provinces of Connaught and Leinster, part of it being in the county of Roscommon, and part in the county of Westmeath.—It is distant from Dublin about 59 miles.

(b) *Tuam*, Co. Galway, 93 miles west of Dublin.



many deserters from the Longford and Kilkenny regiments.—The French remained at Castlebar, having a few picquets in front of the town;—Ballinrobe, Hollymount, Swineford, &c. were occupied by the rebels.—The General added, that from the reduction which had taken place in his corps, and the want of artillery and ammunition, he should be obliged to draw nearer to Athlone.—In consequence of this report, Lord Cornwallis determined to move forward with the corps under his command. Orders were sent to General Lake, to halt, with part of the troops under his command, at *Ballinamore*; and to direct the remainder (the conduct of which, during the retreat, had been very disorderly) to proceed on their march to Athlone;—Other necessary orders were issued to the different commanding officers; and Major-gen. *Nugent* very prudently directed, that all the boats at *Lough-erne*, as well as in *Lough-neagh* and the river *Bann*, should be secured, to prevent the possibility of a junction, should the disaffected in the North attempt a rising.

30th Aug. } Lord Cornwallis' corps arrived and en-  
 ——— } camped near Ballinamore.—Lieut.-col.  
*Craufurd* was sent forward with a strong force, to ascertain the position and proceedings of the enemy.—Brig.-gen. *Taylor* was directed to wait further orders at *Boyle*, and Brig.-gen. *Barnett* reported from Athlone, that the forges, both on the Roscommon and on the Leinster side of that place, were busily employed in making pikes; and that a great number of trees had been cut down for that purpose.

Lieut.-

Lieut.-col. Craufurd, on the 31st, proceeded to Hollymount, and Kilmain, near which place he took a few rebels prisoners :—he learnt that a considerable body of them, commanded by a Mr. *Blake*, were in possession of Ballinrobe.—Not having any infantry with him, and the horses of the cavalry being fatigued, he judged it adviseable not to push any further on that day, and therefore returned to Hollymount.

1st Sept. } Lord Cornwallis proceeded to *Knock-hill*,  
 ————— } where his corps encamped.—His Excellency here received a further report from Col. *Craufurd*, who had advanced about five miles from Hollymount, in the direction of Castlebar, without meeting with an enemy.—He was informed by persons who had escaped from Castlebar, that the French had been joined by many of the inhabitants of the district, from Ballinrobe to Clare; and from the western and most mountainous parts of the co. Mayo.—Col. *Craufurd* sent a patrol into Ballinrobe, where they found about 80 men in arms, whom they dispersed, killing twelve; the remainder of the rebel force had left that place for Castlebar in the morning.

2d. Sep. } Lord Cornwallis arrived and encamped  
 ————— } about two miles in front of *Tuam*, where he was joined by the Queen's and 29th regiments.—A writer who has already published a relation of the military operations on this occasion\*, very justly observes, that to those who shall consider the state of the country,

\* See a pamphlet, entitled an "*Impartial relation of the military operations in Ireland, &c. in Aug. 1798.*"

country, as well as the circumstances which had produced the enemy's first success at Castlebar, the prudential motives must evidently appear, which induced Lord Cornwallis not to place himself in a situation to give or receive a decisive action, until his corps should be composed of troops in which he could firmly confide. Should a second check of the army have taken place, its effect would not have been confined to the increase of men and means,—that would have resulted to the small corps of French troops, whose existence rested solely on the degree of support they received; it would have extended to the disaffected in every part of the kingdom, who, there was good reason to believe, had only continued quiet as yet, because they were unwilling to trust to the first success of so small a foreign support.—Lord Cornwallis had also received positive information, that an expedition from *Brest* was destined for the North of Ireland, and that it was only waiting a favourable opportunity to elude the vigilance of our fleets.—The French general, (*Humbert*), therefore remaining at *Castlebar*, might well be attributed to the expectation of receiving reinforcements himself, and of a co-operation from the corps which was to sail from *Brest*; and as long as he continued stationary, there were not any grounds attaching to his corps solely, which could justify any measure on the part of Lord Cornwallis, not adopted with a moral certainty of success, or which was attended with the most distant probability of a trifling check, or partial risque.



4th Sep. } His Excellency moved forward with the  
 ——— } whole of his corps, and encamped in the  
 rear of Hollymount.——Here he received informa-  
 tion, that the enemy was intrenched behind Castle-  
 bar, on the ground where the attack was made on  
 General *Lake's* corps, and that the rebels were post-  
 ed in Castlebar, and the villages in it's front.—Lord  
 Cornwallis, therefore, determined to march from  
 Hollymount at day-break, with the whole of his  
 corps, intending to attack the enemy.——In the  
 evening, however, of the 4th, he received intel-  
 ligence, that the enemy had marched early in the  
 morning from Castlebar, in the direction of Foxford;  
 and that General *Craufurd* had pushed into Castle-  
 bar, upon hearing the enemy had left that place,  
 where he found several wounded officers and men,  
 about 50 barrels of powder, an ammunition wag-  
 gon, and some arms.—The information he received  
 was contradictory; some reports stating, that the  
 enemy was marching to Sligo,—others, that an at-  
 tack was intended on General *Lake's* corps.——  
 As it was impossible to form a correct judgment of  
 General *Humbert's* object, Lord Cornwallis directed  
 Gen. *Lake* to follow him, and to harass and impede  
 his march, but not to risk an action, unless with al-  
 most a certainty of success.

5th. Sept. } Lord Cornwallis marched at day-break  
 ——— } from Hollymount, through *Clare*, to  
*Ballyhaunis*, and the yeomanry corps of Mayo, were  
 ordered to return to their former stations in that  
 county.—During the march to Ballyhaunis, and very  
 near

near that place, his Excellency discovered, that the enemy was marching with the utmost expedition towards Sligo, and had passed Tubbercurry, where there was a slight engagement with the yeomanry of the place.—Reports were also received, that serious disturbances were taking place in the counties of Westmeath and Longford; that the people were rising in the neighbourhood of Ballymore, Granard, Rathdown, the Islands of Rathaspick, Mullingar, Kilbeggan, &c. and had proceeded to acts of rebellion.—Near Granard, however, a party of the rebels were defeated with great slaughter by the yeomanry corps, under the command of Lord Longford and Captain Cottingham.

6th Sep. } The corps under Lord Cornwallis' com-  
 ——— } mand, proceeded to French-park, where  
 he received accounts from Major-gen. *Nugent*, and  
 Lieut.-gen. *Lake* of an unsuccessful attack which had,  
 on the preceding day, been made by Col. *Vereker*,  
 with a part of the garrison of Sligo, upon the enemy,  
 who had proceeded in the direction of Sligo, and had  
 halted at *Coloony*. The engagement took place about  
 a quarter of a mile northward of *Coloony*, and was  
 warmly maintained for the space of an hour, when  
 the French, by their superiority of numbers, were  
 enabled to out-flank, and to force Col. *Vereker's*  
 right, and obliged him to retreat to Sligo.—On this  
 occasion, Capt. *Cripps* of the city of Limerick regi-  
 ment was killed, Col. *Vereker* and some other officers  
 were wounded.—The Colonel was also obliged to  
 evacuate Sligo, and retire to Ballyshannon, on find-  
 ing

ing that the enemy had, on the night of the 5th, march'd round to Drumahare and Ballintogher, apparently on their route to Sligo.—Lieut.-gen. Lake proceeded to Ballintogher, having sent forward Lieut.-col. Craufurd, with a strong patrol towards Drumahare.—On the march from Coloony, he found three 6-pounders and one tumbril, which the enemy had dismounted and thrown into a ditch by the road-side : and Lieut.-col. Craufurd reported, that the enemy had marched at 11 o'clock, A. M. on the 6th, from Drumahare to Manor-hamilton, having previously thrown 5 guns and 1 tumbril over the bridge, at the former place.

Lieut.-gen. Lake proceeded to Drumahare, and received a further report, that the enemy had suddenly turned to the right, at Drumkerrin.—Lord Cornwallis, judging from the enemy's movements, that it was their intention to proceed to Boyle, or Carrick-on-Shannon, hastened the march of his troops from French-park to the latter place, which they reached on the 7th, after a most rapid progress.

On his Excellency's arrival at Carrick, he found the enemy had passed the Shannon, at Balintra, where they attempted to destroy the bridge : but General Lake followed them so closely, they were not able to effect it.—The enemy halted for the night of the 7th at Cloone, on which his Excellency moved from Carrick at 10 o'clock of the same night, and directed General Lake to proceed at the same time to Cloone, which is about 3 miles from Mohill,

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by



by which movement his Excellency was enabled either to join with General Lake in the attack of the enemy, if they should remain at Cloone, or to intercept their retreat, if they should retire on the approach of the army.

On Lord Cornwallis' arrival at Mohill, soon after day-break, he found the enemy had begun to move towards Granard; he therefore proceeded with all expedition to Johnstown; thro' which, on account of a broken bridge, the enemy were obliged to pass in their way to Granard; and directed General Lake to attack the enemy's rear, and impede their march as much as possible, without bringing the whole of the corps into action.—This service General Lake performed with his usual ability.

8th Sept. } About seven o'clock in the morning,  
 ——— } Lieut.-gen. Lake arrived at *Cloone*, with his column, consisting of the carabiniers, detachments of the 23d light dragoons, the first fencible light dragoons, the Roxburgh fencible dragoons, under the command of Sir Thomas Chapman, Lieut.-col. Maxwell, Earl Roden, and Capt. Kerr;—The third battalion of light infantry; the Armagh, and part of the Kerry militia; the Reay, Northampton and Pr. of Wales' fencible regiments of infantry, under the command of Lieut.-col. Innes of the 64th regiment, Lord Vis. Gosford, Earl of Glandore, Major Ross, Lieut.-col. Bulkeley, and Lieut.-col. Macartney.—Lieut.-col. Craufurd also commanded the advance corps, composed of detachments of Hompesch's and the first fencible cavalry.

Lieut.

Lieut.col. Craufurd on coming up with the French van-guard, near Ballinamuck, summoned them to surrender; but as they did not attend to it, he attacked them; upon which 200 French infantry threw down their arms, under the idea that the rest of the corps would act in like manner.—Capt. Packenham Lieut.-gen. of ordnance, and Major-gen. Craddock rode up to them; the enemy, however, instantly commenced a fire of musketry, by which general Craddock received a wound in the arm.—General Lake then ordered up the third battalion of light infantry, commanded by Col. Innes, and commenced the attack upon the enemy's position.—The action lasted above half an hour, when the remainder of the column making it's appearance, the French surrendered at discretion.—The rebels, who fled in all directions, suffered severely.—By the official accounts it appears, that the loss on the part of the king's forces, was 1 officer wounded, 3 privates killed, 12 wounded, 3 missing, 11 horses killed, 1 wounded, and 8 missing.—Besides the arms and ammunition taken from the enemy, there were taken prisoners 96 general and other officers of the French army, 746 non-commissioned officers and soldiers, with about 100 horses.—The enemy were obliged to abandon 9 pieces of cannon, which they had taken in former actions with his majesty's forces.—Ninty-six rebels were also made prisoners; amongst whom were three of their principal leaders or general officers, viz. *Roach, Blake, and Teeling.*

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The battle of *Ballinamuck*, proved decisive :— the rebels now found, that even with the long-wish'd-for assistance of a foreign enemy, they could not effectuate their designs ;—they were therefore obliged to abandon a project, which proved chimerical and unfortunate :—and nothing remained for them, but to await that punishment which they had merited from the laws of their injured country.

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PART



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# Irish Rebellion, 1798.

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## P A R T IV.

*Remarkable atrocities committed by the rebels,  
and their extraordinary Persecution of several Individuals.*



*Having given a general account of public proceedings during the late rebellion, we shall proceed to state some particular instances of that cruel and barbarous disposition that actuated the insurgents in different parts of the kingdom, having collected them from the best and most authentic information:—we shall begin with the horrid massacre at*

### SCULLABOGUE.

**T**HIS place is situated between Ross and Wexford.—The rebels having, after the battle at Ross, taken a number of protestants prisoners, they confined them in a barn at this place, which they afterwards set on fire:—the prisoners naturally made different efforts to escape; but the rebels who surrounded the barn prevented them, by forcing the unhappy captives into the fire with their pikes, and pushing them back into the flames, till they were all consumed.

GOREY,

## GOREY.

The rebels were not satisfied with burning and plundering this place during the absence of the army, but they destroyed the church, dragged down the pulpit, burned some of the seats and pews, and actually stained it with the blood of 2 protestants whom they inhumanly put to death in it.

## HACKETSTOWN.

Having entered the house of Captain *Hardy* in this town, the insurgents proceeded to the most horrid outrages:—Mr. *Hardy's* family fortunately escaped; but having himself fallen a prey to these savages, they broke both his thighs, and then set fire to the house, where he was burned to death.

## CREE.

At this place (which is in the county of Wexford) the rebels attacked the house of Mr. *Robert Webster*, who was an industrious farmer; and having forced him out of it, they interrogated him as to his religion: Mr. *Webster* acknowledg'd himself a protestant; upon which they piked him in the head and different parts of the body, putting him thus to death in the most cruel manner.

## KILDARE.

In this town, the rebels destroyed the house and property of a Mr. *Crafford*; whom (after they had abus'd him for being a protestant,) they put to death, by thrusting a pike up his body, which penetrated almost

most to his throat, and wounding him in many other parts:—they afterwards roasted him before a large fire, where he expired in the most shocking agony.—One of his young children was also put to death in the same manner;—and the mother, with another child, who were severely wounded, escaped death by the providential arrival of a party of loyalists, who rushed into the house, and rescued them from the hands of the barbarians.

### CLONARD.

#### SUFFERINGS OF MRS. TYRREL.

This lady, on the morning of the 11th of July, 1798, went in her carriage from Clonard towards her own house at Kilreiny; but hearing the rebels were approaching, she speedily drove back, intending to reach Clonard before them:—Finding this attempt not practicable, she directed her servant to proceed to Kilreiny; but they had not advanced many yards, when the carriage was overtaken by two horsemen armed with swords, who, with the most horrid oaths and menaces, obliged the servant to stop:—they then turned the carriage back towards Clonard, until they overtook about 200 men armed with pikes, &c.—where they search'd for arms but none were discovered.—Three men, armed with muskets, ascended the boot of the carriage, and three others placed themselves behind it; in this manner, Mrs. *Tyrrel*, attended by a great crowd, was brought two miles round to the high road leading from Dublin to Clonard:—Here she was kept as a prisoner, notwithstanding her frequent



frequent entreaties to be enlarged, and remained in custody, until the defeat of the rebels at Clonard, of which an account has been given in the preceding part of this work.—Upon that event, the principal part of the insurgents that had retreated, assembled at the cabin where she was detained:—one of the rebel officers then desired her to get into the carriage, alledging, that she must go with him:—she requested liberty to remain where she was, offering the use of the carriage and horses to him;—but she was soon after seized by another person, who proposed setting her on horse-back, declaring the carriage should be applied to the use of some wounded men:—she was now in a state of despair, apprehending her life immediately in danger.—At length, she was forced into the carriage by three or four men, and carried about a mile, when it was again stopped and entered by one *Perry*, who informed her, that the yeomen had taken a general officer of the rebels at Clonard, and that she must remain as a hostage, till his fate was known.—After proceeding a little farther, the carriage was again stopped by a person who displaced *Perry*, and took place in it himself.—In a short time after, she perceived a person riding by it, whom she knew to be a priest of the name of *Kearns*, and who had been frequently entertained at her house:—she applied to him for protection, but all was fruitless.—Her mind was now turned, as if in her last moments, to devotion; and her conduct excited the humanity of a man who sat on the box of the carriage, and declared she should be safe, and at liberty to act as she pleased.—To him she gave, as a reward for his seeming

ing humanity, her gold watch.—She continued not much longer in this melancholy situation, until she was relieved by a gentleman in the garb of an officer, who interrogated her as to her person, and the occasion of her situation;—being informed in every particular, he caused the cavalcade that attended her to stop, handed her out of her carriage, and conducted her through the crowd of insurgents, leaving her at liberty to proceed home, and then returned to his party.—Thus critically was Mrs. Tyrrell relieved from her situation, and a life saved, which probably would otherwise have fallen a victim to insatiable barbarity.

#### ENNISCORTHY.

The following circumstance which happened at this town, is too remarkable to escape notice.—An industrious tradesman (a glazier) was seized by the rebels, and required to renounce his religion as a protestant, to confess to a priest, and receive his baptism; all which he refused to comply with:—In consequence of this, he was piked in several parts of the body, till he became apparently dead; and was then thrown into a field, and covered with some sods of earth.—Some of his friends, who had previously submitted to that ceremony, begged his body for interment, which was granted.—Upon raising him out of the ground, some signs of life appeared;—he was privately conveyed home; and after necessary assistance had been administered, he fortunately recovered, and is now a living witness of the horrid cruelty before-mentioned.

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WEXFORD.

## WEXFORD.

Mr. *Boyd*, a gentleman of amiable character, and a magistrate of the county of Wexford, was put to death in the following manner:—The rebels thrust an iron pin through his nose, tied his hands behind his back, and left him fastened to a dunghill till he expired.

A protestant clergyman of respectability, was also stripped naked by the rebels, who put him into a pig-trough, and bled him to death; after which, they danced and washed their feet in his blood.

But, as the town and county of *Wexford* afforded more extraordinary incidents of cruelty than perhaps any other part of the kingdom, we cannot better satisfy the reader's curiosity, than by stating the following circumstances extracted from the narrative of

## MR. CHARLES JACKSON.

Who was an inhabitant of Wexford.——This gentleman states, that on Saturday night, May the 26, 1798, information was first received of the rebels being in force, about 12 miles from Wexford. The troops at that time in the town, were under arms the whole of the night; and on Sunday morning, the alarm increased, on hearing the rebels were burning the houses of all the protestant farmers in the neighbourhood.——The terror of the inhabitants that night can better be imagined than described.—To add to it, all the families in the neighbourhood, who



who were able, were seen flying into the town, leaving their property behind them.—They saw the smoke of the town of Enniscorthy, which was then in flames.—The loyalists made a most gallant defence, and would have repulsed the rebels, had not the Romanists treacherously set fire to the town, to smother the troops who were defending it.—Thus circumstanced, the troops were obliged to secure their safety by flight, after having cut off about 500 of the rebels.

At about four o'clock this afternoon, no description can give an adequate idea of the scene presented at Wexford. The inhabitants who had escaped from Enniscorthy and its neighbourhood, pushed into the town in crowds; persons of the first fortunes in this part of the country, covered with dust and blood, with their infants in their arms, and their wives clinging behind them; and such women as had not been able to procure a horse or seat with their husbands, endeavoured to keep up with the mob of fugitives, with their children in their arms, and others hanging on them: women who, but a few hours before, were in possession of every comfort life could afford. The inhabitants of Wexford, still more terrified by the spectacle before them, were each endeavouring to secure a birth for their wives and children, on board some of the vessels lying in the harbour, every one of which was soon filled as full as it could hold. The next morning, Tuesday, May 29, a party of the Donegal militia arrived, with 2 pieces of cannon, and brought news that more assistance was advancing. Orders were now given that all the  
fires

fires should be put out, and that such houses as had thatched roofs should be immediately stripped, to prevent the rebels from following the example of those at Enniscorthy, by setting fire to the town during the time of its being attacked.—A council being now called, it was resolved, that it was impossible to defend the town, as the greatest part of the Romanists, who had taken up arms, had deserted.—Two gentlemen, Mr. Richards, a lawyer, and Doctor Jacobs, mayor of the town, were appointed to offer to surrender the town to the rebels, and to endeavour to save the lives of the inhabitants; to which conditions the rebels agreed. In the mean time, the troops, accompanied by all the unmarried yeomen, effected their escape to Duncannon-fort, about 23 miles off.

On May the 23d, Mrs. Jackson was brought to bed; and on the Monday following, the day of the battle of Enniscorthy, her husband thought himself fortunate in being able to remove her with her infant, and place them on board one of the vessels, in which they had no doubt of being safely carried to Wales. In this vessel they continued on the open deck, with only a sail to cover them, 'till Wednesday morning, May 30, when about two o'clock, they seen the toll-house and part of the bridge of Wexford on fire.—The town was immediately in an uproar; and while the cavalry were endeavouring to cut away a part of the bridge, to prevent the flames from communicating to the town, the quays, and every avenue leading to the water-side, were crowded with women  
and

and children, begging, in the most pitiable manner, to be admitted on board the vessels ;—but that was impossible ; they were already filled in every part. On seeing the flames, the vessels all weighed and stood towards the mouth of the harbour, where they cast anchor.——“ About one o’clock, (says Mr. Jackson), a white flag was seen flying in Wexford, “ (a signal that the rebels were in possession of the “ town), and the captain of our vessel instantly answered it by another. His example was followed “ by the rest, except two, who sailed for Wales.—We “ now concluded the *die was cast*, and that we were “ to be given up to our enemies.——Every entreaty “ I could urge was strenuously enforced, to induce “ the captain to carry us to Wales, but without effect. With a mind almost distracted, I went into “ the hold, where my wife and her infant now lodged, to take what I supposed would be a last farewell ; but the horror expressed in her emaciated “ countenance, deterred me from communicating all “ my apprehensions.——At length we arrived at the “ quay, and with my charge, I was landed on the “ beach. While I was in this state, one of the captains, (of the name of Furlong,) came up to me, “ and asked me if I belonged to the town, and whether I had any arms ?—I told him, that, at the “ house where I had lived, I had a musket. He bid “ me follow him and give it up. We passed thro’ “ crowds of the rebels, who were in the most disorderly state, without the least appearance of discipline. They had no kind of uniform, but were “ most of them in the dress of labourers, with white “ bands



bands round their hats, and green cockades; being the only marks by which they were distinguished.—It was impossible for a mob to be more wild and frantic; many of them seemed to be in a state of intoxication. The houses first attacked were, the Custom-house, and those of Mr. Lee, the collector, Capt. Boyd's, and the Rev. Mr. Mil-  
lar's. In a short time nothing remained of them but bare walls.

Following close the horse of my conductor, I passed safe with my wife and child through this terrible scene to my house. I gave him my musket, and he rode off. My wife lay down on a bed, and I crept under it, thinking to hide myself, in case I should be sought after. I had not been in this situation more than ten minutes, when I heard my name called, and a sound of feet on the stairs.—Presently the door opened, and one Patrick Murphy, with six others, all armed, came into the room. This Murphy was a near neighbour of mine, and had always professed a great regard for me. My wife, on seeing him, threw herself off the bed with the child in her arms, and fell on her knees, entreating them to spare me. One of them swore if she did not say where I was, he would blow her brains out. On hearing this, from fear of her being injured, I shewed myself, and was immediately seized and dragg'd down stairs.—I was conducted to the barracks, and put into a room with eight others, all expecting soon to be put to death. After remaining in this situation a-  
bout

"bout an hour, one of the rebels, armed with an  
 "old bayonet on the end of a pole made a thrust at  
 "my throat, but it was prevented from entering by a  
 "thick cushion under my cravat. He then wound-  
 "ed me slightly below my hip. At that moment,  
 "Counsellor Richards, (who had been obliged to  
 "join the rebels to save his own life) came into the  
 "room with Mr. B. Harvey, and seeing the state I  
 "was in, requested him to save me, which he did by  
 "taking me out with him to a Mr. Hughes, at the  
 "Foley. I went up a back stair-case, and got into  
 "a small room at the top of the house. Soon my  
 "pursuers came into the room; but I was concealed  
 "in a cupboard, and for that time escaped their fury.  
 "Thus disappointed, I heard them propose to set fire  
 "to the house, but that was over-ruled.—In that  
 "situation I continued till ten o'clock at night; I  
 "then ventured out, and got over the rocks to a  
 "place called Maudlin-town, near a mile from  
 "Wexford, to the house of an old woman of the  
 "name of Cole, whom I thought I could trust; and  
 "begg'd in the most earnest manner, that she would  
 "permit me to remain concealed there, till affairs  
 "were a little settled. She told me she would as long  
 "as she could without danger to herself, and that  
 "she would go into the town and see how matters  
 "went; which she accordingly did, and returned,  
 "saying that the insurgents were searching all the  
 "houses for Protestants, and committing them to  
 "gaol; and if I should be found there, they would  
 "kill her, and burn the house.—I got out at her back  
 "door, and went about two miles across the coun-  
 "try, and at last arrived at a place where I could  
 "try,

“try, but soon heard voices behind me, calling on  
 “me to stop, and I should have mercy.—I turned  
 “round, and saw six men advancing with pikes in  
 “their hands. They seized me, and conducted me  
 “back to Wexford, and put me into gaol, in which  
 “I found about two hundred and twenty Protestants.

“Towards the evening, a fellow, of the name of  
 “Dick Monk, who had formerly been a shoeblack  
 “in the town, but now was raised by the rebels to  
 “the rank of a captain, came into the gaol, and bid  
 “us prepare our souls for death, for that all of us,  
 “except such as upon examination he should release,  
 “would be put to death at twelve o’clock that night.  
 “The manner of his examining was two-fold; first  
 “politically; and then religiously;—The form of his  
 “political examination was this:—Q. Are you  
 “straight? A. I am.—Q. How straight? A. As  
 “straight as a rush.—Q. Go on then. A. In truth,  
 “in unity, and in liberty.—Q. What have you got  
 “in your hand? A. A green bough.—Q. Where did  
 “it first grow? A. In America.—Q. Where did  
 “it bud? A. In France.—Q. Where are you go-  
 “ing to plant it? A. In the crown of Great-Britain.”  
 —The preceding questions and answers, appear to  
 have been a part of the *United-Irishmen’s Catechism*,  
 by which they knew each other.

“Monk, after having gone through this examina-  
 “tion, selected six to be saved, and took them with  
 “him out of the prison,—the situation of us that  
 “remained, can better be imagined than described.  
 “No one, however, came near us that night;—Next  
 “morning,



“morning, we were brought some potatoes and water which proved a seasonable relief.

“On June the 4th, the gaoler came in and took us into the yard:—As soon as I came out, he said, “Mr. Jackson, “I believe you know what we want of you.”—I answered, “yes, I supposed I was going to die.”—I then fell upon my knees, begging, “that if that was the case, I might be allowed to see my wife and child,—He swore that I should not; that I was not then going to die, but that a man was to die at six o’clock that evening, and that he did not know any more proper to execute him than me and two others. We were then carried back to our cells, and spent the day in prayer till six o’clock; at which time being brought to the great door, we found the prisoner Murphy, with nearly 1000 men about him. The dead march was struck up, and beat from the gaol to the place of execution, which was a mile and a half off, on the other side of the bridge, on a wide strand. An order was then given to form a half circle, with an opening to the water. The poor man was directed to kneel down, with his back to the water, and his face towards us, which he did, with his hands clasped.—The musquets were then called for.—“The first appointed to fire was one Matthews; and “it was remarkable the piece missed three times. “A common sporting gun was then brought, and “fired by Matthews, and the ball hit the poor man “in the arm. I was next called upon; and 2 men “advanced, one on each side of me, and held cocked  
S “pistols

" pistols to my head ; two also stood behind me with  
 " cavalry swords, threatening me with instant death,  
 " if I missed the mark. I fired, and the poor man  
 " fell dead. When it was over, a proposal was made  
 " that I should wash my hands in his blood ; but this  
 " was over-ruled ; and they said, as I had done my  
 " business well, I should go back.

" On June the 20th, we heard a horrid noise at  
 " the gaol, and a demand of the prisoners.—18 or 20  
 " were immediately taken out ; and, in about half  
 " an hour, the rebels returned for more victims. In  
 " the whole, they took out ninety-eight.—Those  
 " who were last called out, were 17 in number.—  
 " Mr. Daniel and Mr. Robinson, both guagers ; Mr.  
 " Atkins, a tide-waiter ; Matthews and Gurly, who  
 " were with me at the execution of Murphy, and my-  
 " self, were included in this lot.—We were marched  
 " to the bridge.—The blood of those who had been  
 " already executed on this spot, (eighty-one in num-  
 " ber) had more than stained, it streamed upon the  
 " ground about us. They first began the bloody tra-  
 " gedy by taking out Mr. Daniel, who, the moment  
 " he was touched with their pikes, sprung over the  
 " battlements of the bridge into the water, where he  
 " was shot.—Mr. Robinson was the next, he was  
 " piked to death.—They ripped open the belly of  
 " poor Mr. Atkins ; and in that condition, he ran  
 " several yards ; when falling on the side of the  
 " bridge, he was piked.—Thus they proceeded, till  
 " they came to Gurly, who was next to me.—While  
 " they were torturing him, General Roach rode up  
 " in

“ in great haste, and bid them beat to arms, infor-  
 “ ming them Vinegar-Hill was beset, and that rein-  
 “ forcements were wanting.—This operated like  
 “ lightning upon them; they all instantly quitted the  
 “ bridge, and left Mr. O’Connor, an organist; Mr.  
 “ Hamilton, the bailiff of the town; and myself, on  
 “ our knees.—The rebel guard soon came to us, and  
 “ took us back to the gaol; which we entered with  
 “ hearts overflowing with gratitude to the great Cre-  
 “ ator, for our late wonderful preservation. For the  
 “ arrival of the troops we looked, with some hope  
 “ and extreme anxiety, the whole night, till about  
 “ five o’clock in the morning, when we heard the  
 “ joyful sound of cannon.”—Soon after, the king’s  
 troops entered the town, and put an end to this scene  
 of barbarity.

*MURDER of the Revd. G E O. K N I P E, at Castle-  
 Richard, Co. Meath.*

This murder was committed by the insurgents,  
 previous to the general breaking out of the rebellion;  
 but as it stands connected with their subsequent pro-  
 ceedings, it deserves to be recorded.—The crime  
 was committed on the night of Saturday 30th April,  
 1797, and during the Summer assizes, 1799, one of  
 the perpetrators, nam’d *John Tuite*, was tried before  
 Mr. Justice Chamberlain, at Trim; upon whose tri-  
 al, *John Coghlan*, one of the witnesses on the part of  
 the prosecution, gave in evidence, that the prisoner  
 enter’d Mr. Knipe’s house at Castle-Richard, with a-  
 bout 12 or 13 others,—being part of a body of men  
 amounting to near 100, who had assembled on the  
 occasion.



occasion.—That the witness was summoned to go there by *Tuite*, who read to him a paper, purporting,—“That no man who was sworn to the *united* “*cause*, could refuse attending ten miles from his “*own* place, to raise arms, or *kill Heriticks*.”—and added, that they were to proceed to murder Mr. Knipe.—On going at the time appointed to Mr. Knipe’s house, *Tuite*, who acted as captain, gave orders to plant 20 men as a guard or picquet about a quarter of a mile from the house, with directions to fire 6 shots at a time as a signal, if requisite.—*Tuite*, after forcing the door of the house, and entering it as before mentioned, directed the witness with some others, to retire to the rear, in order to prevent Mr. Knipe’s escape;—immediately after this, Mr. Knipe was murder’d; his body was dragg’d out to the front of the house, and the party was then form’d into a circle round it, upon a small bowling-green opposite the hall-door.—*Tuite* then fired his pistol at Mr. Knipe’s head, (who was already apparently dead) saying,—“*There lies the body of a Heretic, which I hope “to see the nation quell’d of in a short time.*”——Two men then came up with blunderbusses and fir’d at the body, which seemed to rise with the force of the charge.—The prisoner then commanded the murderers to disperse quietly in small parties, which they did accordingly.

### *The Sufferings of a Mr. TAYLOR.*

The Narrative published, states briefly as follows.  
—On going home through the country, he became a prisoner

prisoner to the rebels, the 6th of June 1798, and was taken to *Gorey*, where he was confined in the market-house with other prisoners.—The first night, (says the narrative,) “the guards that were placed over us, tied our arms behind, and confined us to certain limits, that we should not have an opportunity of conversing together.—The next evening, the rebels brought in another prisoner, whom they afterwards shot in the streets.

“My papist neighbours hearing I was in confinement, some of them came to see me, mocked me, wished me a speedy liberation; and hoped I would not loose any time to accept of the means to procure it, which was to be christened by a priest, and embrace the holy Roman Catholic Faith (as they called it) and if I would not consent to these proposals, I should be shot.

“In a few days after, they stript me of all my cloaths, and gave me an old suit belonging to a soldier who had unfortunately fell into their hands; and one of their captains took half a guinea from me, which was all the money I had, except one shilling and seven pence half-penny; thus having plunder’d me, they left me to meditate on what should follow; nor was it me alone that was robbed, but all the prisoners.—They then led us out into the camp to be shot.—Here we were commanded to sit down two and two; there were guards placed before and behind us; them that were behind wanted to kill us with their pikes, but those before us, would not consent to our  
“being

“ being killed until the arrival of the priest in form.  
 “ The guards behind, however, wounded many of us  
 “ notwithstanding ; and one in particular had been  
 “ cruelly mangled in his back with their pikes.—A  
 “ rebel horseman rode up to us, and after viewing us  
 “ for a while, fired a pistol among us, and wounded  
 “ one of us in the shoulder.

“ The priest at length arrived, and we expected a  
 “ cruel and immediate death ; but to the great dis-  
 “ appointment of our blood-thirsty guards, who  
 “ were continually prodding us with their pikes, the  
 “ priest had directions from Bag. Harvey, to read a  
 “ proclamation he held in his hand, which he did,  
 “ (W) ; and instead of our being put to torturing  
 “ deaths, we were escorted back again, and walked  
 “ two and two as before, linked to each other.—The  
 “ next morning, their savage barbarity soon return-  
 “ ed, for they cut off all the prisoners’ hair, and put  
 “ pitch’d caps on them all, except myself ; they did  
 “ not even exclude a minister, who was our fellow-  
 “ prisoner, from torture and the same punishment.—  
 “ This happened on Sunday, the 9th of June, when  
 “ the whole body of the rebels prepared to attack  
 “ Arklow.

“ As the rebel army marched through the town of  
 “ Gorey, the guards thrust the prisoners half-out of  
 “ the windows, that the rebel army might see the  
 “ prisoners’ heads shorn and covered with pitched  
 “ caps ; at which the rebels shouted with great joy  
 “ and contempt, and mocked the prisoners as they  
 “ passed them.

“ Our



" Our bed here was only brush of straw, and that  
 " very trifling, which was swarming with vermin ;  
 " our food was very scanty, and no man got as much  
 " in twenty-four hours as was sufficient for one meal ;  
 " —but I was much better treated than the rest of  
 " the prisoners.

" On Wednesd. the 13th, the rebel officers came  
 " into the guard-room to try the prisoners, and any  
 " that were supposed to be Orange-men, were con-  
 " fined closely in gaol, till they should be sent to  
 " Wexford to be shot or piked to death.——When  
 " my trial came on, I was in a few words acquitted,  
 " and placed among them that were to go to the  
 " camp to join and fight with the rebels against his  
 " Majesty's forces ; but this my conscience revolted  
 " from, and I chose now to take my fate with those  
 " who were doom'd for the Wexford slaughter, rather  
 " than take up arms against my king and country.—  
 " We were now pinioned and hand-cuffed together,  
 " and then marched in that slavish, painful manner in  
 " procession 13 miles to Oulart ; when we arrived at  
 " the inn it was near eleven o'clock at night ; we  
 " were then drove into an out-house, where a little  
 " straw had been shaken on the floor for us to lye on,  
 " our hands continued handcuffed behind us, but the  
 " mercy and goodness of the Great God supported  
 " us under this and every other painful affliction.

" In the morning, we marched about four miles  
 " farther, and then halted at the house of Edward  
 " Fitzgerald, to get something to eat ; we then  
 " went to Wexford, where we arrived about eleven  
 " o'clock ;

“ o'clock; we continued hand-cuffed with heavy  
 “ irons, being confined in the gaol.

“ This is a very strong prison, and I believe never  
 “ contained so great a number of innocent inhabi-  
 “ tants before; no man was confined here but pro-  
 “ testants, and this alone was their crime.——  
 “ There were so great a number of prisoners here,  
 “ and more crowding in every day, that the rebel  
 “ committee thought it expedient to send some of  
 “ them to the market-house, as the weather was so  
 “ extremely warm, they were afraid it might be-  
 “ come infectious.——The rebel captains or com-  
 “ manders said it would be dangerous to kill us, un-  
 “ til they would find whether they would be success-  
 “ ful against the army or not.——Many of the pri-  
 “ soners were appointed for the market-house, but  
 “ were imploring the committee to leave them in the  
 “ gaol, as the lower order of the rebels were so  
 “ blood-thrifty, that they would hardly be prevented  
 “ by their leaders from burling into the prison, and  
 “ murdering all the despairing poor protestant crea-  
 “ tures in it.

“ On Wednesday evening, the 20th of June, they  
 “ dragged out 14 of my innocent suffering protestant  
 “ fellow prisoners, and after they had gone away with  
 “ them, we enquired of our guards what they in-  
 “ tended to do with them; some of the guards repli-  
 “ ed, they were going to be tried; others said they  
 “ were to be taken to the camp to be shot, because  
 “ they would not turn to mass. In some time after, a  
 “ large rebel force came again to the prison, and  
 “ took

“ took away ten more innocent trembling victims ;  
 “ after they were gone some time, a woman came cry-  
 “ ing bitterly, and told me the rebels had murdered  
 “ all the prisoners on the bridge, and then had  
 “ thrown them over into the ferry.—The blood-  
 “ thirsty rebels returned to the prison again, and said  
 “ they came for more Heretics.—Another party,  
 “ more devilish, (called the executioners,) soon after  
 “ came in, and dragged out 18 more innocent men ;  
 “ I was one of the number.—When we arrived at  
 “ the bridge, we kneeled down to offer up our pray-  
 “ ers, and to commend our souls to God ;—while  
 “ in the fervency of our supplications, on our knees,  
 “ they piked six of our fellow-sufferers in the most  
 “ horrid and tormenting manner they could think of,  
 “ and then threw them over the bridge into the wa-  
 “ ter.—One man in torture with his bowels hanging  
 “ out, running round on the bridge, jumped into  
 “ the water, and the cruel rebels diverted them-  
 “ selves firing shots at him as he struggled in the a-  
 “ gonies of death.—When they had done murder-  
 “ ing these innocent protestants also, there only re-  
 “ mained two trembling victims more, and myself,  
 “ to finish these bloody sacrifices ; but Mr. Curran,  
 “ a priest of Wexford, interfered, and saved our  
 “ lives, by desiring the rebels to desist.”——

“ It evidently appears,” (continues our narrative)  
 “ that this pious Father Curran never interfered to  
 “ save the lives of all, or any of the innocent Protec-  
 “ tants, who were daily butchered by the merciless  
 “ rebels, previous to this day’s sacrifice of them.



*Lord KINGSBOROUGH.*

His Lordship on hearing of the disturbance, had left Dublin, with a view of joining his regiment, the North Cork militia.—Not knowing the town of Wexford was taken, he was proceeding towards it, with two of his officers, in a small sloop; but at a short distance from the harbour, the vessel was attacked by several armed boats belonging to the rebels. His Lordship, with his usual courage, endeavoured to defend himself, but was overpowered by numbers; and with his two officers, Cap. Burke and Cap. E. Hay, the second day after the town was taken, was brought into Wexford;—they were confined at a public-house, where a strong guard was placed over them.

A few days fter, the gaol was so crowded, that no room was left for the protestant prisoners, who were daily brought in from different parts of the county. The rebels then fitted up two large sloops, as prison-ships, with a quantity of straw at the bottom, and grating over the hatch-ways. These vessels were taken through the bridge of Wexford, (which is a draw-bridge) unrigged, and were moored in the middle of the river.—A number of the most respectable gentlemen of the county, who were prisoners, were put on board, and with them Ld. Kingsborough and his officers; but he had not been long in this situation, before he was so beset with rats, that he was necessitated to send to Keughe, the then rebel governor of the town, and in the most earnest terms entreat to be removed to any other place, were it ever  
so

so mean. The request was complied with; and his lordship, with his officers, under a strong guard of pike-men, was taken back to his old lodgings at the dram-shop. Several times did detachments come from the rebel camp to demand his life; and the day before the town was taken by the King's troops, which was the time fixed upon for a general massacre of the prisoners, a party came to his Lordship's lodging to demand his body; but the guards, who were chiefly townsmen, and generally speaking, less blood-thirsty than the country-men, refused. While this altercation lasted, the Catholic Bishop Caulfield arrived, and finding all the arguments he could use had no effect, rushed thro' the crowd, and forced into the room where his Lordship was, placing himself before him, told the rebels,—if they chose to fire they might; but if they would murder his Lordship, it should not be before they had killed him.—This threat had the desired effect; the rebels went away, leaving his Lordship and the bishop together.——Lord Kingsborough, however, continued a prisoner 'till sometime after.

#### *WILSON'S HOSPITAL.*

This charitable institution, which was situated in the county Westmeath, was destroyed by the insurgents, because it was a protestant foundation.—— They effected this soon after the French landed; having assembled to the number of 5000 for that purpose.—Immediately after this outrage, a Priest proceeded to celebrate mass for them; and they then collected

collected in a house, a great number of protestant men, women, and children, and would have set fire to it, but that the King's troops seasonably arrived there.

We shall close this account of these horrid barbarities, (which were too numerous to admit of recital) with barely mentioning the names of the following Clergymen and Gentlemen of respectability who, amongst others, fell victims to the sanguinary fury of the rebels,—viz.—The Revd. *Samuel Hedon*, Enniscorthy,—Revd. *Robert Burrowes*, Oulart,—Revd. *Francis Turner*, Ballingale ;—Revd. Mr. *Pentland*, Killan ;—Revd. Mr. *Troke*, Templeshambo ;—Capt. *Allen Cox*, Coolelife ;—Major *William Hore*, Harpurstown ;—*Edward Turner*, Esq; Stone-lodge ;—*Edward Howlin D'Arcy*, Esq; Balnahown.

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*Conclu-*



### *Conclusion.*

**T**HE foregoing instances are sufficient to satisfy an impartial reader, that there is yet remaining in the lower class of people in this country, a certain disposition of savage inhumanity, not to be found in any other enlighten'd nation.—If this is not the case, how shall we account for such acts of barbarity, if they have not their source in the principles of the religion they profess.—And, indeed, when it is considered, that both immediately before and after the committing of these outrageous crimes, the perpetrators often assembled to perform the ceremonies of their worship, and attended the celebration of mass, either as preparatory to the deed, or, as a thanksgiving for the perpetration of it; we can have little doubt of the extraordinary principles their religion inculcates; or of its no less extraordinary influence on uncultivated minds.—

That the deluded rabble, who were foremost in violence, carnage, and plunder, and under no restraint but that of their clergy, could yet be directed and controuled by *them*, appears also evident; inasmuch, as many protestants, who were compelled

to comply with the requisites demanded of them, and undergo popish baptism, received from the priests, written protections, which preserved them from future danger and molestation;—Some of these protections were as follows, viz.

*I humbly request, for the sake of CHRIST, that you will protect———and family,*

JOHN CORRIN.

*Parish Priest of Wexford.*

*" I hereby certify, that A. B. of Es. has done his  
" duty, and proved himself a Catholic. Dated Wexford,  
" 21st June, 1798.*

F. JOHN BROE.

*" Mr. C—— D—— has complied with every con-  
" dition required of him, and therefore is to be stopp'd  
" by no man."*

Rev'd. B. MURPHY.

*" From the excellent character of A. B. I beg leave,  
" in the Name of JESUS CHRIST, to recommend him to  
" be protected. Wexford, June, 15, 1798.*

JAMES CAULFIELD."

That a multitude possessed of common sense, or common feelings, should be dup'd out of every principle of humanity, and instigated to the most brutal atrocities, by priestly insinuation and contrivance, will seem less extraordinary, when it is further known, that the same artifice could actually persuade them, mortality was invulnerable; and that a valiant priest invested with the armour of his function, could become *proof* against either cannon, sword or musket.

The

The following extract, however, from the information of Mr. Richard Grandy of Ballystraco, in the county Wexford, farmer, sworn 23d of June, 1798, before several respectable magistrates, fully proves what has been alluded to.——After stating the manner and time in which he was attacked and seized by the rebels, with several particulars respecting their proceedings, he saith——“ That he was taken  
 “ to Foulke’s-mill, where he continued two days  
 “ under a guard, dressing the wounded ;—that he  
 “ was afterwards conveyed to Ballymitty, when he  
 “ obtained a pass from Edw. Murphy, parish priest  
 “ of said place, to pass and re-pass through his district, for the purpose of curing the wounded ;—  
 “ sayth, that he was sent to Taghmon, where the  
 “ sitting rebel magistrates were of opinion, that dependent might, with the priest’s pass, have gone  
 “ back again and remained there ;—sayeth, that he  
 “ strolled along the sea side, under the protection of  
 “ this pass, till at last he effected his escape across the  
 “ ferry of Bannow to Fethard, on Friday the 22d  
 “ June, and from thence to Duncannon-fort :—sayeth, that he attended mass celebrated by Edward  
 “ Murphy, parish priest of Bannow ; that after mass,  
 “ he heard said Murphy preach a sermon, in which  
 “ he said “ *Brethren, you see you are victorious every  
 “ where, that the balls of the hereticks fly about you without hurting you ; that few of you have fallen, whilst  
 “ thousands of the hereticks are dead ; and the few that  
 “ have fallen, was from deviating from our cause and  
 “ want of faith ; that this visibly is the work of God,  
 “ who now is determined that the hereticks, who have*  
 “ *reigned*



“reigned upwards of one hundred years, should be now  
 “extirpated, and the true catholic religion established.”  
 “sayeth, this sermon was preached after the battle  
 “of Rofs; and sayeth, he has heard several sermons  
 “preached by the priests to the same effect; and fur-  
 “ther sayeth, that he has heard several of the rebels  
 “who had been at the battle of Enniscorthy and else-  
 “where declare, that Edward Roche the priest did  
 “constantly catch the bullets that came from his ma-  
 “jesty’s army in his hand, and give them to the re-  
 “bels to load their guns with;—sayeth, that any pro-  
 “testant who was admitted into the rebel army, was  
 “first baptised by a Roman Catholic priest; and  
 “that every protestant who refused to be baptised,  
 “was put to death; and that many, to save their  
 “lives, suffered themselves to be baptised.”

We have elsewhere mentioned that government  
 were acquainted with the designs of the insurgents  
 for some time previous to the actual commencement  
 of the rebellion in May 1798; it is proper therefore  
 to observe, that, on this occasion, the public are  
 much indebted to the loyalty and prudence of *Wil-*  
*liam Cope*, esq; of Dublin; who, having providential-  
 ly acquired some intimation of the proceedings, then  
 secretly in prosecution, from Mr. *Reynolds*, encourag-  
 ed that gentleman to make a complete discovery to  
 government, and enabled them to take such pruden-  
 tial measures as, in many instances, frustrated the  
 wicked attempts of the disaffected party.

## NOTES.

(A)—Page 10.

The whole kingdom of Ireland was antiently divided into different principalities; of latter times, there were five principal chieftains, viz. *Mac Morough* of Leinster, *Mac Carty* of Munster; *O'Neil* of Ulster, *O'Connor* of Connought, and *O'Melaghlan*, or *M'Laughlin*, of Meath. *Giraldus Cambrensis*, who was historiographer and secretary to king Henry II. speaking of the Irish kings, says thus:—"Illi reges non fuerunt ordinati solemnitate aliqujus ordinis, nec unctionis sacramento, nec jure hæreditario, vel aliqua proprietatis successione, sed vi & armis quilibet regnum secum obtinuit."

In the reign of Henry II. of England, *Dermot Fitzmurchard*, commonly called *Mac Morough*, Prince of Leinster, who was a man cruel and oppressive, after many battles with other princes of Ireland, and being beaten and put to flight by them, applied to king Henry for relief, who was then busied in his wars with France; and not having an opportunity to afford him much assistance, the king granted licence to such of his subjects as thought proper to volunteer in the service of *Dermot*. Amongst the first of these English adventurers, was Earl *Strongbow* and his son, together with *Robert Fitzstephen* and *Maurice Fitzgerald*. The son of *Strongbow* agreed to assist the Irish prince in the recovery of his possessions, on condition that *Dermot* should give him his eldest daughter in marriage, and the kingdom of *Leinster* after

U

his

his death.—*Fitzstephen* and *Fitzgerald* stipulated for a grant of the city of *Wexford*, with two cantreds or hundreds of land contiguous to it.

The success of these adventurers, encouraged king *Henry* to follow them into this kingdom with some additional forces, as soon as circumstances would permit: and in *November*, 1172, he landed with his followers at *Waterford*.—*Roger Howeden*, agreeing with other antient writers in the relation of this fact, says, that king *Henry* took shipping for Ireland at *Milford*, and landed at *Waterford*:—"et ibi venerunt ad eum rex Corcagiensis, rex de Lymerick, rex de Oxenie, rex Midia & fere omnes Hibernia potentes."—The consequence was, that these different potentates, (if they might be so called) with the clergy and great men of the kingdom, voluntarily submitted to *Henry*, and accepted him as their lord or king.—"Archiepiscopi et episcopi ipsam in regem & dominum receperunt, & ei fidelitatem et homagium juraverunt," says *Mat. Paris*.—In the end, the king received letters in manner of charters, confirming the kingdom of Ireland to him and his heirs, and testifying, that they in *Ireland* had ordain'd him and his heirs to be their king and lord of Ireland for ever:—After which, *Henry* returned to England, in *April*, 1173.

*Henry* having thus freely acquired his dominion in this kingdom, granted several privileges to his new subjects, putting them on the like footing with those of England, and establishing here the same laws and form of government as in that country:—He likewise allowed the Irish the freedom of holding parliaments in Ireland, as a separate and distinct kingdom from England; and sent them a *Modus*, directing how such parliaments should be holden.—Thus was formed a certain and plain original contract between king and people, which was subsequently ratified and confirmed at different times, by  
several



several of his successors.—The reader may be fully satisfied upon this head, by perusing Mr. *Molyneux's* case of Ireland; to which, for the sake of brevity, we must here refer him.

When *Henry* had thus established his lordship in Ireland, (for the term king was not assumed till the reign of *Henry VIII.*) he made large distributions to his followers by particular grants; allotting, in great proportions, the most considerable part of the kingdom among the English commanders; who thus acquired large estates, and gave several shares to their friends and fellow-soldiers, who had come over as private adventurers with them.

It may be observed, that the king, upon his expedition into Ireland, according to the piety of the times, applied to the pope for his approbation, and received the holy father's bull and benediction upon that occasion. *Mat. Paris* says,—“rex Anglorum *Hen.* nuncios solennes Romam mittens rogavit papam *Adrianum* ut sibi liceret *Hibernia* insulam intrare, et terram subjugare, atque homines illos bestiales ad fidem, et viam reducere veritates.”—From these latter expressions, it might be imagined the Irish were, at this time, a race of savage infidels; it appears, however, they had long before embraced the Christian faith; and all the truth they wanted to be converted to was, an *absolute submission* to the *See of Rome*; which the *Irish church* not having then acknowledged, it's members were considered by his holyness, as no better than *beasts*.

(B)—Page II.

“We shall not find, (says Sir *John Temple*) that the English, from their first access into Ireland unto the reign of queen *Elizabeth*, (a tract of time containing  
“above

“above 380 years) had any permanent peace, or comfortable subsistence, but were in continual commotions and troubles.”—In fact, there were almost perpetual hostilities between the powerful septs of that nation, and the British colonies that settled there; but the most remarkable insurrections, previous to the rebellion of 1641, were the following.

In the reign of *Henry VIII.* *Thomas Fitzgerald*, Lord *Ophaley*, (eldest son and heir of the then Earl of *Kildare*) being chief governor of Ireland, broke out into open rebellion, renounced his allegiance, and set himself up as an independent prince.—After several conflicts, he and his adherents were reduced:—himself, with five of his uncles, were taken prisoners, sent to England, and there executed as traitors at Tyburn.

The Earl of *Desmond*, whose dominions extended nearly over all Munster, entered into a league with *Spain*, in the reign of Queen *Elizab.* for severing Ireland from England, and rendering it independent.—He was joined by almost the whole Irish nation, and supported by the *Spaniards* with great supplies of troops and military stores. His attempts, however, were soon frustrated by the superior power of England; he was taken and beheaded, and many of his followers were put to death.

Another rebellion took place here during the same reign, which was set on foot by the Earl of *Tyrone*, and with the view of rendering this kingdom independent of England.—The Earl received assistance and supplies also from *Spain*, and was joined by the whole body of the Irish Catholics.—This rebellion was at length suppressed, but with the most dreadful consequences to its abettors; having caused the slaughter, or dispersion into foreign countries, of all the Irish chieftains who assisted *Tyrone*; and of the greater part of the inhabitants of  
six

six entire counties in the northern part of the kingdom. Whoever consults our Irish statutes, from the reign of *Henry VIII.* to that of *Queen Elizab.* may collect from thence a tolerable history of them times, and the state of public affairs in Ireland.

With respect to the disturbances that commenced in 1641, they were undoubtedly contrived by the Irish Romanists with the same intentions of seperation and independence:—and they were encouraged to this attempt, by the then distracted state of affairs in England.—The principal leaders of this rebellion were *Ld. Maguire* and *Sir Phelim O'Neille*, both of whom were executed.—We are told by *Sir William Petit* that the Romanists, at the breaking out of this rebellion, were nearly as six to one in number above the Protestants;—and that they murdered, in the first year of it, 37,000 Protestants in cold blood.—*Sir John Temple* asserts, that, during its continuance, 300,000 Protestants were destroyed.

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(C)—Page 12.

By Stat. 10. *Hen. 7th*, no act could pass in the parliament here, till it was first assented to by the King and privy council of England, and transmitted hither under the broad seal of *England*.—Several statutes were afterwards passed from time to time, for the explanation and modification of the act of *Poyning's*.

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(D)—Page 13.

The English statute 6. *Geo. 1st*, commonly called the *declaratory act*, was entitled, “an act for the better securing the dependency of the kingdom of Ireland upon the crown of Great Britain.”—The act itself was as follows:—

“Whereas



“ Whereas the house of lords of Ireland have of late,  
 “ against law, assumed to themselves a power and jurif-  
 “ diction to examine, correct and amend the judgments  
 “ and decrees of the courts of justice in the kingdom of  
 “ Ireland; therefore, for the better securing of the de-  
 “ pendency of Ireland upon the crown of Great Britain,  
 “ may it please your most excellent majesty, that it may  
 “ be declared, and be it declared by the King’s most ex-  
 “ cellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent  
 “ of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons in  
 “ this present parliament assembled, and by the autho-  
 “ rity of the same:—That the said kingdom of Ireland  
 “ hath been, is, and of right ought to be, subordinate  
 “ and dependent upon the imperial crown of Great Bri-  
 “ tain, as being inseparably united and annexed there-  
 “ unto; and that the King’s majesty, by and with the  
 “ advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and tempo-  
 “ ral, and commons of Great Britain, in parliament  
 “ assembled, had, hath, and of right ought to have, full  
 “ power and authority to make laws and statutes of suf-  
 “ ficient force and validity to bind the kingdom and  
 “ people of Ireland.

“ And be it further declared and enacted by the au-  
 “ thority aforesaid, that the house of lords of Ireland  
 “ have not, nor of right out to have any jurisdiction to  
 “ judge of, affirm, or reverse any judgment, sentence  
 “ or decree given or made in any court within the said  
 “ kingdom; and that all proceedings before the said  
 “ house of lords upon any such judgment, sentence or  
 “ decree are, and are hereby declared to be utterly null  
 “ and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever.”

This act the legislature of *England* thought proper to  
 repeal in 1782, by the following act, viz.—

“ *An act to repeal an act made in the 6th year of the reign*  
 “ *of his late majesty King George the 1st, entitled, an act for*  
 “ *the*

*“ the better securing the dependency of the kingdom of Ireland  
 “ upon the crown of Great Britain,*

*“ Whereas an act was passed in the 6th year of the  
 “ reign of his late majesty King George the first, enti-  
 “ tled, an act for the better securing the dependency of the  
 “ kingdom of Ireland upon the crown of Great Britain, may  
 “ it please your most excellent majesty that it be enact-  
 “ ed, and be it enacted by the king’s most excellent ma-  
 “ jesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords  
 “ spiritual and temporal, and commons in this present  
 “ parliament assembled, and by the authority of the  
 “ same, that from and after the passing of this act, the  
 “ above-mentioned act, and the several matters and  
 “ things therein contained, shall be, and is and are  
 “ hereby repealed.”*

It is unnecessary here to mention the debates which afterwards took place, respecting the operation of this *simple repeal*; the proceedings respecting it are in the mind of every reader.

(E)—Page 13.

The *Irish* language, so generally in use here at the time of the Reformation, and so little known by the English, may well be assigned as one reason why the Protestant religion did not become as general *here* as in *England*, the reformists not having had an equal opportunity of inculcating their principles.

(F)—Page 14.

In 1780, certain regulations were made respecting the trade of Ireland, and a free intercourse with the colonies

nies confirmed to her ;—the commercial propositions in 1785, and the act for equalizing duties in 1787, are matters of general notoriety.

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(G)—Page 17.

The proceedings in 1782, respecting the *repeal* of 6. *Geo. 1st*, seems to have perfectly satisfied the people of Ireland, as to the restoration of legislative independence. The house of commons, in their address to his majesty on that occasion, thus expressed themselves:—" We assure your majesty, that we conceive the resolution for an unqualified, unconditional repeal of the 6. *Geo. 1st*, to be a measure of consummate wisdom and justice, suitable to the dignity and eminence of both nations, exalting the character of both, and furnishing a perpetual pledge of mutual amity.—Gratified in those particulars, we do assure your majesty, that no constitutional question between the two nations will any longer exist which can interrupt their harmony; and that Great Britain, as she has approved our firmness, so she may rely on our affection."

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(H)—Page 17.

There were several meetings held at Dungannon, as well as other parts of the kingdom, for discussing the business of national independence and parliamentary reform; and expressing the general sense of the nation, on these important subjects.—On 15th of Febr. 1782, a meeting was held at Dungannon, consisting of the representatives of one hundred and forty three corps of volunteers of the province of *Ulster*, at which the following resolutions, amongst others, were agreed to, viz.

" That



“ That a claim of any body of men, other than the king, lords and commons of Ireland, to make laws to bind this kingdom, is unconstitutional, illegal, and a grievance.

“ That the powers exercised by the privy council of both kingdoms under, or under colour or pretence of the law of *Poyning's*, are unconstitutional and a grievance.

“ That the ports of this country are by right open to all foreign countries not at war with the king; and that any burthen thereupon or obstruction thereto, save by the parliament of Ireland, are unconstitutional, illegal, and a grievance.” —

We state these particulars, to shew what were the national objects then in view, and the measures that were pursued to attain them. As to *parliamentary reform*, it was particularly considered, and the necessity of it enforced at another meeting of delegates appointed for the purpose, assembled at Dungannon also.

(I)—Page 17.

The services rendered by the volunteers of Ireland, were universally acknowledged, as well in Great Britain as in this kingdom; and to their spirited exertions it was owing, that the meditated invasion of our constant enemies the French, did not take place at that period.—In fact, they stood forth the saviours of their country, at a moment when it was most imminently endangered.

(K)—Page 18.

For a concise view of the advantages the trade of Ireland has received, by different regulations, during the present

present reign, the reader is referred to the speech of the Rt. Hon. *John Foster* in the house of commons, April 11th, 1799, printed in a report of the debates on the regency bill, by *Moore*, Dublin.

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(L)—Page 18.

In 1783, a meeting was held in Dublin in like manner as had been held at Dungannon; and on the 7th of June, 1784, an aggregate meeting of the freemen, freeholders and inhabitants of Dublin was convened, at which the then high sheriffs presided;—which meeting came to a resolution of appointing a committee to prepare an address to the people of Ireland; and also a petition to his majesty, stating certain grievances, and praying a dissolution of the parliament.—The meeting having been adjourned, and afterwards assembled to receive the report of their committee, agreed to an address and petition, as above-mentioned.—The address, amongst other matters, proposed,—that five persons should be elected from each county, city and great town in this kingdom, to meet in national congress at Dublin on 25th of October following, “there to deliberate, “digest and determine on such measures as might seem “to them most conducive to re-establish the constitution on a pure and permanent basis, and secure to the “inhabitants of this kingdom peace, liberty and safety.” The address to the people concluded thus:—“and whilst “we contend, as far as in us lies, for our constitutional “rights and privileges, we recommend to your consideration the state of our suffering fellow-subjects the “*Roman Catholics* of this kingdom; whose emancipation “from the restraints under which they still labour, we “consider not only as equitable, but essentially conducive to the general union and prosperity of the kingdom.”

“dom.”—The reader will perceive from these proceedings, the misguided attachment of the Protestants towards the national advantage of their *Roman Catholic* fellow-subjects.

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(M)—Page 23.

Many proofs might be adduced to this point, besides such as are stated in the publication referred to:—however, we shall gratify the reader’s curiosity (if he has not perused that pamphlet) with the following authorities:—

Pope *Pius* the 5th, in 1570, issued a bull of excommunication and deposition against Queen *Elizabeth*, beginning thus:—“He that reigneth on high, to whom  
“all power is given in heaven and earth, hath committed the one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, (*out of which there is no salvation,*) to one alone on earth,  
“namely, to Peter, prince of the apostles; and to the  
“*Roman pontiff*, successor of St. Peter; to be governed  
“with a plenitude of power:—This one he hath constituted prince over all nations and kingdoms, that he might  
“pluck up, destroy, dissipate, overturn, plant and build, &c.

Pope *Innocent* the 3d, in 1215, procured a decree to be passed in the 4th council of Lateran, wherein it is declared, that “heretics of every kind against the true  
“orthodox Catholic faith, shall be condemned; and if  
“they shall not prove their innocence by a proper purgation, they shall be excommunicated, and their effects confiscated.—All secular powers shall be compelled, by ecclesiastical censures, to take an oath to extirpate, within their respective territories, such of their subjects as shall be condemned as heretics by the church.  
“All Catholics, who shall take up arms for the purpose  
“of



“ of *extirpating* such heretics, shall enjoy the same indulgence and the like holy privilege, with those who visited the Holy Land.”—To ensure the execution of this decree, the bishops were obliged, at their inauguration, to take an oath containing the following paragraphs:—“ The rights, privileges and authority of the holy Roman Church, and of our lord the pope, and his successors, I will be careful to preserve, defend, enlarge and promote:—all heretics, schismatics and rebels against our said lord and his successors, I will, to the utmost of my power, *persecute* and *impugn*.”

What has been stated, must sufficiently demonstrate the dangerous principles and tendency of Popery, in whatever point of view it is considered; whether *political*, *moral*, or *religious*.

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(N)—Page 28.

Such of the rebel leaders as had been protestants, soon discovered the insincerity of their popish friends, and the difficulty of restraining the licentiousness of an ignorant rabble.—When the unfortunate *B. B. Harvey* was brought to execution, he bore testimony to this fact; and declared, that if he had the least idea that such enormities and murders would have been committed on the Protestants as had been done in Wexford, he would have had no concern in the business.—But as the insurgents gained strength amongst themselves, it became impossible to control them, and their commanders lost all power.

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(O)—Page 29.

With respect to the late rebellion, it was the avowed intention of France to disunite Ireland from Great Britain.

tain.—No sooner had *Humbert* landed at Killala, than printed papers were distributed expressive of that design. “*We swear (says he) the most inviolable respect for your properties, your laws, and all your religious opinions.—BE FREE; BE MASTERS IN YOUR OWN COUNTRY.—We look for no other conquest, than that of your liberty,—no other success, than yours.*”——again—“*Union, liberty, the IRISH REPUBLIC!—Such is our shout,*” &c.—The shout, however, happened to prove a mad one:—yet it is laughable to see with how much confidence of success this hero wrote to his country.—In his letter to the French minister of marine, after vaunting much of his success at *Castlebar*, he proceeds as follows:—“*Nous sommes en possession de Killala, Ballina, Foxford, Castlebar, Newport, Ballinrobe, et Westport. Dès que le corps d’Irlandais Unis que je veux réunir à moi fera armé et habillé je marcherai à l’ennemi. Je me dirigerai vers Roscommon, où l’insurrection a de plus chauds partisans. Dès que l’armée Anglaise aura évacuée la province de Connaught je passerai le Schanon, et tacherai de faire jondre l’armée par les insurgés du nord. Cette réunion étant effectuée j’aurai assez de force pour marcher sur Dublin et livrer une bataille décisive.*”

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(P)—Page 29.

We have elsewhere taken notice of the pope’s interference, and of the bull issued against Queen *Elizab.*—Another bull was issued during the rebellion of 1641, encouraging the insurgents to proceed in the cause they had undertaken:—And in 1729, the Romish prelates of Ireland obtained a bull from the pope, “to raise, by the sale of indulgencies, a sum of money to be speedily applied to restore *James III* to his right, and to put king *George*, and all the royal family, to the sword.”

Every

Every communicant was to receive plenary indulgence for his sins on paying two-pence, on saying the Lord's prayer five times, and once the apostle's creed:—and all approved confessors had power to absolve in all cases.

We cannot omit stating here, the remarkable preamble to the bull issued during the rebellion of 1641 before-mentioned; it was as follows:—"Urbanus Octavus, &c.  
 " Having taken into our serious consideration the great  
 " zeal of the *Irish* towards propagating the *Catholic faith*,  
 " and the *piety* of the *Catholic warriors* in the several ar-  
 " mies of that kingdom, (which was for that singular  
 " fervency in the true worship of God, and notable care  
 " had formerly in the like case by the inhabitants there-  
 " of, for the maintenance and preservation of the same  
 " orthodox faith, called, of old, *the land of saints*) and  
 " having got certain notice how, in *imitation* of their  
 " *godly* and *worthy* ancestors, they endeavour, *by force of*  
 " *arms*, to deliver their *thralled* nation from the oppres-  
 " sions and grievous injuries of the heretics, wherewith  
 " this long time it hath been afflicted and heavily bur-  
 " thened, and gallantly do in them what lieth to *extirpate*  
 " and *totally root out* those *workers of iniquity*, who, in the  
 " kingdom of Ireland, had infected, and were always  
 " striving to infect, the mass of *Catholic purity* with the  
 " pestiferous leaven of their heretical contagion; We,  
 " therefore, being willing to cherish them with the gifts  
 " of those spiritual graces whereof by God we are or-  
 " dained the *only dispeners* on earth, by the mercy of the  
 " same Almighty God, trusting in the authority of the  
 " blessed apostles *Peter* and *Paul*, and by virtue of that  
 " power of *binding and loosing* of souls which God was  
 " pleased (without our deserving) to confer upon us:  
 " TO ALL and every one of the faithful Christians in the  
 " aforesaid kingdom of Ireland, now, and for the time  
 " *militating* against the *heretics*, and other enemies of the  
 " *Catholic faith*, &c."



(Q)—Page 30.

Doctor *Moylan*, titular bishop of Cork, in his *pastoral instruction* to the Roman Catholics of that diocese, speaks thus:—"I would have you not unmindful of the blessings you enjoy, and the favours you have received. Certain privileges excepted, you possess the advantages of the constitution.—The penal laws under which our forefathers groaned, have been almost all done away. You have the comfort of exercising your holy religion without control; and to the benignity of government, and to the liberality and wisdom of parliament, we are indebted for the establishment and endowment of a Roman Catholic college on an extensive plan; which will afford a liberal education to our youth, and a supply of clergy to our church, when the present generation have finished their career.—These are blessings, these are favours, that should excite and call forth our gratitude; and this gratitude we should evince by a steady attachment to the constitution, and unshaken loyalty to our gracious sovereign:—A sovereign, who has done more for the Roman Catholic body, and indeed for this kingdom in general, than any of his predecessors."—The Doctor here bears testimony to the many indulgencies the Romanists enjoyed, during the present reign; but what was the consequence of this candid declaration? It was resolved, by a *committee of assassination* at Cork in April 1798, to murder Doctor *Moylan*, on account of his steady loyalty, and adherence to truth; and to throw the odium of the crime upon the Protestants.

(R)—Page 40.

Doctor *M'Nevin's* testimony, to which we allude, was substantially as follows:—

About

" About September or October 1796, I became a  
 " member of the close society of United Irishmen. It  
 " consisted of societies at first composed of 36 members;  
 " afterwards these societies were reduced to 12 members,  
 " each society of 12 chose a secretary and generally a  
 " treasurer.—The secretaries of five societies formed  
 " a lower baronial committee; out of each of the low-  
 " er baronial committees, one person was chosen to be  
 " a member of the upper baronial; each of the upper  
 " baronials consisted of ten members thus chosen. The  
 " next superior committees were, in populous towns,  
 " district committees; and in counties, county commit-  
 " tees; these were composed of one member elected  
 " from each baronial. The next superior committees  
 " were, the provincial committees; composed of two  
 " members, sometimes three, elected from each county  
 " committee.—The provincial committees elected 5  
 " persons by ballot; the secretary examined the ballots,  
 " and reported to the persons elected their appointment,  
 " but made no report of the election to the provincials,  
 " who were thus kept in ignorance of the persons who  
 " composed the executive. The executive had the com-  
 " mand of the whole body thus organized.—One mem-  
 " ber of the executive communicated with one member  
 " of the provincial committee, he with the secretary of  
 " the county committee, he, in like manner, with the  
 " secretaries of the baronials, and these secretaries with  
 " those of the subordinate societies.—The organization  
 " originally, was purely a civil organization; but I be-  
 " lieve it was military in Ulster, about the latter end of  
 " 1796.—In the military organization, the secretary of  
 " the society of 12 was the petty officer, that is, serje-  
 " ant or corporal: The delegate of five societies to a  
 " lower baronial, was usually the captain, and thus had  
 " 60 men under his command; and the delegate of ten  
 " lower baronials to the upper or district committee,  
 " was

" was usually the colonel : Thus a battalion was com-  
 " posed of 600 men.—The colonels of each county sent  
 " in the names of three persons to the executive, one  
 " of whom was appointed, by the executive, adjutant-  
 " general of the county: his duty was to receive and  
 " communicate all military orders from the executive.  
 " Every member of the society paid a monthly subscrip-  
 " tion: and this fund was applied to the support of pri-  
 " soners in goal, to defend them on their trials, and to  
 " extend the union.—The general direction was, for  
 " each person to arm himself; such as could afford it,  
 " with fire-arms and ammunition; others with pikes.—  
 " The object of the system was to effect a revolution,  
 " and establish a republic.—The military organization  
 " began in Leinster in the beginning or middle of 1797.  
 " In April or May 1797, a plan of insurrection for the  
 " North was formed, and heads drawn up in writing;  
 " but it was soon given up, and the writing destroyed.—  
 " Previous to 1796, some persons had gone from hence  
 " to France on account of their political opinions:—  
 " Early in 1796, a letter came from one of them stating,  
 " that the situation of this country had been represented  
 " to the directory of the French republic, who had pro-  
 " mised to invade Ireland, for the purpose of separating  
 " it from Great Britain. This letter was taken into se-  
 " rious consideration by the Irish executive early in  
 " 1796, and an answer was sent in April that year, ac-  
 " cepting the proposal, on condition that they should  
 " come as allies, to act under the directions of the pro-  
 " jected revolutionary government, as *Rochambeau* did  
 " in America; that they should be paid the expences of  
 " the expedition, and their troops receive Irish pay whilst  
 " they acted here. This answer was sent to Paris by a  
 " special messenger; and the French directory promised  
 " that the succours thus demanded should be sent.—  
 " About October or November 1796, a messenger came  
 " from



“ from France to the Irish directory with intelligence,  
 “ that the promised succours might be speedily expected,  
 “ and desiring to know the state of preparation of  
 “ this country. The force to be sent by France was  
 “ stated to be 15,000 men, and a great quantity of arms  
 “ and ammunition; and I think if they had landed when  
 “ they came to Bantry, an insurrection would have taken  
 “ place in the North of Ireland.—The next communication  
 “ of consequence, was in June 1797, when  
 “ an accredited person went from hence to communicate  
 “ with the French directory at their desire: He  
 “ went by Hamburgh, where he saw the French minister,  
 “ who made some difficulty about giving him a passport,  
 “ and demanded a memoir containing his instructions;  
 “ which was accordingly written by the accredited person,  
 “ and given to the French minister, under the impression  
 “ that the passport would not be granted. The memoir was  
 “ written in English, and contained the objects of his mission,  
 “ according to the instructions which he had received from  
 “ the executive directory of the Irish union.—It began by  
 “ stating, that the appearance of the French in Bantry bay  
 “ had encouraged the least confident of the Irish in the hope  
 “ of throwing off the yoke of England, with the assistance of  
 “ France: That the event of that expedition, had proved the  
 “ facility of invading Ireland: That in the event of a second  
 “ expedition, if the object was to take Cork, Oyster Haven  
 “ would be the best place of debarkation: and it stated the  
 “ precautions which had been taken for defence, by throwing  
 “ up works at Bantry, Fermoy and Mallow: It further stated,  
 “ that the system of United Irishmen had made a rapid progress  
 “ in the county of Cork, and that Bandon was become a  
 “ second Belfast: That the system had made great progress  
 “ in other counties, and that the people were now well  
 “ inclined to assist the French: That 150,000 United Irishmen  
 “ were organized and enrolled in

“ Ulster,

" Ulster, a great part of them regimented, and one-  
 " third ready to march out of the province: It detailed  
 " the number of the king's forces in Ulster, and their  
 " stations: Recommended Lough Swilly as a place of  
 " debarkation in the North; and stated that the peo-  
 " ple in the peninsula of Donegal would join the French:  
 " It stated also, the strength of the garrison of London-  
 " derry, and that one regiment, which made a part of  
 " it, was supposed to be disaffected to the King of Great  
 " Britain: It mentioned Killybegs, also, as a good  
 " place of debarkation; and stated, that the coun-  
 " ties of Tyrone, Fermanagh and Monaghan, were  
 " amongst the best affected to the cause: In case of a  
 " landing at Killybegs, it recommended a diversion at  
 " Sligo; and stated that a force of 10,000 United Irish-  
 " men might be collected to fall upon Enniskillen,  
 " which commanded the pass of Lough-Erne: That  
 " it was easy to enter the bay of Galway, but very dif-  
 " ficult to get out of it: That the counties of Louth,  
 " Armagh, Westmeath, Kildare, King's County, and  
 " city of Dublin, were the best organized: That the  
 " Catholic priests had ceased to be alarmed at the ca-  
 " lumnies which had been propagated of French irreligi-  
 " gion, and were well affected to the cause: That  
 " some of them had rendered great service in propaga-  
 " ting, with discreet zeal, the system of the Irish union:  
 " It declared, that the people of Ireland had a lively  
 " sense of gratitude to France for the part which she  
 " took, and also to Spain, for the interest which she felt  
 " in the affairs of Ireland: It engaged, on the part of  
 " the Irish national directory, to reimburse the expen-  
 " ces of France in the expedition which had failed, and  
 " of any other which might be undertaken: The num-  
 " ber of troops demanded was a force not exceeding  
 " 10,000, nor less than 5,000 men: It stated, that a bri-  
 " gade of English artillery had been already sent over,  
 " and

“ and that a large body of troops would probably be  
 “ sent from Great Britain if Ireland was attacked : A  
 “ considerable quantity of artillery and ammunition,  
 “ with a large staff and body of engineers, and as ma-  
 “ ny Irish officers as possible, whose fidelity they were  
 “ assured of, were demanded as necessary to accompany  
 “ the expedition : A recommendation was given to se-  
 “ parate the Irish seamen who were prisoners of war  
 “ from the British, supposing the former would be rea-  
 “ dy to join in an expedition to free their country : It  
 “ further recommended a proclamation to be published  
 “ by the French general on his arrival here, that the  
 “ French came as allies to deliver the country, not to  
 “ conquer it : It also recommended to the directory of  
 “ the French republic, to make the independence of  
 “ Ireland an indispensable condition of the treaty of  
 “ peace then depending at Lisle ; and stated, that a pro-  
 “ ceeding so authentic could not be disguised or misre-  
 “ presented, and would very much encourage the peo-  
 “ ple of Ireland to persist in their exertions to atchieve  
 “ a revolution : It contained also an assurance that the  
 “ Irish militia would join the French, if they landed in  
 “ considerable force.—Immediately after this memoir  
 “ was given to the French minister, a passport was grant-  
 “ ed to the writer of it to go to Paris, where he had se-  
 “ veral conferences with persons in authority, some of  
 “ them members of the directory : The object of these  
 “ conferences was, to obtain the same assurances of suc-  
 “ cours from them that their agents had before given to  
 “ the executive directory of the Irish union.—The ne-  
 “ gociation for peace was then going on at Lisle : He  
 “ was told by persons in authority, that they did not  
 “ think the English cabinet sincere ; but that if France  
 “ could get the terms she had a right to expect, the di-  
 “ rectory would make peace.—A second memoir was  
 “ presented at Paris by the same person soon after his  
 “ arrival



“ arrival there ; it's object was, to impress on the directory the necessity of expediting the armament for Ireland, and of insisting on the independence of Ireland as an indispensable condition of any treaty of peace, by every argument which the writer could use.—After the breaking off the negociation, and Lord Malmesbury's return to England, assurances were given to the Irish executive directory, that the French government would send a new expedition to Ireland, and that they never would abandon her till she was separated from Great Britain ; and these assurances have been since renewed.”

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(S)—Page 41.

The humanity of the legislature was such, that every cause of complaint by the lower order of people, respecting hearth-money, was removed ; an act being passed some years ago, whereby all dwellings were exempted from that tax that had but one hearth.

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(T)—Page 55.

The seizure of the castle of Dublin was likewise a primary object with the insurgents at the rebellion of 1641 ; and indeed, in many other particulars, the proceedings of that time and those of 1798, bore a striking analogy.

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(U)—Page 81.

During the rebellion of 1641, a circumstance took place similar to the business at Scullabogue.—By the deposition

position of *Thomas Wenslaw* and *John Simpson* of the Co. of Fermanagh, gentlemen, sworn 12th January, 1642, it appeared, that the rebels set fire to the castle of *Lisgool*; and one hundred and fifty-two persons, men, women and children, were burnt or smothered in it.—The same deposition further states, that at the castle of *Ma-neah*, there were ninety Protestants more cruelly put to death; and that from thence the rebels proceeded to the castle of *Tullah*, where they promised the Protestants that were there fair quarters; but when the latter had delivered up the castle and surrendered up their arms, the rebels stripped them of all their cloaths, and then inhumanly murdered them in the bawn of the castle.

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(W)—Page 142.

The proclamation alluded to was as follows;—

“ *At a meeting of the General and several officers of the United Army of the county of Wexford, the following Resolutions were agreed upon:—* Resolved,——

“ That the commander in chief shall send guards to certain baronies, for the purpose of bringing in all those that they shall find lurking and delaying at home or elsewhere; and if any resistance be given to those guards so to be sent by the commanding-officer's orders, it is our desire and orders, that such persons, so giving resistance, shall be liable to be put to death by the guards, who are to bear a commission for that purpose; and all such persons so to be found loitering and delaying at home, when brought in by the guards, shall be tried by a court-martial appointed and chosen from amongst the commanders of all the different corps, and not to depart therefrom, under pain of death, unless authorised to quit by written orders from the commander in chief for that purpose.——

“ It

" It is also ordered, that a guard shall be kept at the  
 " ere of the different armies, with orders to shoot all  
 " persons who shall fly or desert from any engagement;  
 " and that these orders be taken notice of by all the of-  
 " ficers commanding such engagements.——All men  
 " refusing to obey their superior officers, to be tried by  
 " a court-martial, and punished according to their sen-  
 " tence.——It is ordered, that all men who shall  
 " leave their respective quarters, when they have been  
 " halted by the commander in chief, shall suffer death,  
 " unless they have leave from their officers for so doing.  
 " ——It is ordered by the commander in chief, that  
 " all persons, who shall have stolen or taken away any  
 " horses, shall immediately bring in such horses to the  
 " camp at head-quarters; otherwise, any horse that  
 " shall be seen or found in the possession of any person to  
 " whom he does not belong, shall, on being convicted  
 " thereof, suffer death; and any person or persons,  
 " who shall take upon them to *kill or murder* any per-  
 " son or persons, *burn any house*, or commit any plun-  
 " der, *without special written orders from the commander in*  
 " *chief*,—shall suffer death.

" *Head-quarters, Carrick-Byrne Camp. June 6, 1798.*

" *By Order of B. B. HARVEY, commander in chief.*

" FRANCIS BRIEN, *Sec. and Adj.*"

F I N I S.





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